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AUGUST P. RICHTER

Editor of *Der Demokrat*, Davenport, Iowa, 1884-1913

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## *An Appreciation*

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Professor in Drake University

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From my tutor [I learned] to be a partizan, neither of the Greens nor of the Blues in the chariot-races, nor of the Parmularii or Scutarii in the gladiatorial contests. He taught me also to endure toil, to have few wants, to be industrious, to mind my own business, and to despise slander.—Marcus Aurelius—Meditations.

The few stout and sincere persons whom each one of us knows recommend the country and the planet to us.—Emerson's Journal.

Ships that pass in the night, and speak each other in passing;  
Only a signal shown, and a distant voice in the darkness.  
So on the ocean of life, we pass and speak one another;  
Only a look and a voice, then darkness and silence.

—Longfellow—Tales of the Wayside Inn.

Dr. August P. Richter, editor for thirty years of *Der Demokrat* of Davenport, Iowa, died at Santa Monica, California, on the morning of Monday, February 8, 1926, age eighty-two years. His transit from the precincts of his family, friends and acquaintances into that Bourne whence all travelers hail and thence return deserves more than the usual formal *Nunc Dimittis* accorded familiars when the ruthless Reaper passes near us.

It was not my privilege to enjoy daily contacts and frequent converse with Dr. Richter. In fact, throughout the twenty years of my acquaintance I met him but three times—twice in his home city, and each time the meeting was casual, no more than the

usual formal greetings and a few observations marked each occasion; and once in Des Moines when upon one of his rare visits to our state's capital he let me know of his coming and I had an hour's chat with him at his hotel.

My relations with Dr. Richter began informally in the latter part of 1906 in the course of the prosecution of a study of a notable national event; and they were maintained by correspondence, more or less intermittently, through the intervening years. Through that exchange I was the beneficiary of his gracious and generous disposition. Much more—I got intimate glimpses of various phases of a most interesting character, the facets and flashes of which steadily held me in increasing admiration with the ongoing years, and which enabled me to understand the golden memories of his intimate associates and fellow citizens.

After all, when life's bothers and parade cease and

The tumult and the shouting dies

what is man's chief desire but the hope that when one has departed from this mortal coil there may cluster in the hearts of those who linger fond memories which gladden and lift those who carry on?

Dr. Richter was a strong man with a soul at once sensitive and stern and staunch, with a mind alert to the basic realities of life and a heart attuned to the fine things which make for beauty and worth. Ben Jonson in his drama, "The Epicene," describes one of the characters as "a gentleman who does not love noise." Such an one was Dr. Richter; he was very quiet in his habits of life, reserved in speech, and without any sort of ostentation. He was seldom seen in public places wherein crowds foregather and indulge in feasting, routs and sports. But while a citizen without arrogance or assumption, preferring the cool recesses of his library and its dry white light, he was ever forthright and downright in public expression should public right or the popular welfare be on the anvil of debate and grave decisions be in the issue. He served his day and generation well. Of such are the foundations of strong states.

Because it was my good fortune to come within the circuit of Dr. Richter's generous nature and good will I venture to express



both my admiration of his character and my sense of obligation in the "Appreciation" which follows and to place it upon his cairn.

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Dr. August Paul Richter was born in Maerkisch-Friedland, West Prussia, on January 25, 1844. But little is available concerning his ancestry, or his childhood and youth because of his reticence about himself. There is, however, reason to assume that his family were within the reaches of the commercial or professional classes as they were strictly designated in those days, for his education presupposes such connections.<sup>1</sup>

When and where young August achieved the curriculum of the gymnasium cannot be stated with assurance but probably in Berlin; for an older brother, who attained marked success as royal interior decorator of castles and public buildings to Wilhelm I, King of Prussia, later Kaiser of the Empire, made it possible for him to enter upon the study of medicine in the University of Berlin. His graduation from the gymnasium gave him the important rank or status of an *Einjährigfreiwilliger* and thereby reduced his compulsory military training from two years to one year. While in the midst of his medical studies the war between Austria and Prussia broke out in 1866 and the young collegian was called to the colors. He served in the Royal Artillery. He did not see service on the firing lines but seems to have been held either in training camp or in the reserves.

But that short service under arms had a serious effect upon

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<sup>1</sup>The biographical data presented in the following pages has been obtained from the following sources:

1. Personal letters to the writer from Dr. Richter, 1906-1925, from Mrs. T. C. (Clara Richter) Murdoch of Santa Monica, California, and from Mrs. J. Gustaf V. (Anna Richter) Lang of New York City; and from Hon. Charles A. Ficke, Adolph Petersen, editor of *Iowa Reform*; Grace Shellenberger, Librarian of the Public Library—all of Davenport.

2. The files of *Der Demokrat*, *The Davenport Democrat and Leader*, *The Daily Times*, *Iowa Reform*, and *Downer History of Scott County and Davenport*. For transcripts from the *Times* I am indebted to Laura M. Ade and to Leo J. Lucier.

3. Various correspondents quoted specifically in the ensuing narrative.

Dr. Richter's reticence regarding himself may be seen in the fact that though himself engaged for fifty, if not sixty, years in promoting "publicity" for others, we have no authorized "biography" in any of the histories of Davenport or Scott County, and the brief sketches published in the presses of Davenport at the time of his death indicate clearly that he did not like so many of latter-day literary folk "let his ego go" in any "advance" information for his conferees of the press.

To Dr. Carl F. Haussmann of the German Historical Society of Germantown, Pennsylvania, I am indebted for the title and the original German of Dr. Richter's translation of *Lorbeerbaum und Bettelstab* found in the introduction to his second series of historical papers in *The Daily Times* in 1924.

the feelings and opinions of the aspiring young student of medicine. His family and their social rank and his upbringing naturally induced the attitude and views of the conservative classes as to the proper relations of the classes to the masses. What he saw in the army seemed to produce a marked change in his state of mind. Thereafter he did not look on the life of his fellows through the eyes of his family and his class. Precisely what caused his revulsion of feeling or the revolution in his views may not be positively asserted. But the common conditions within the army explain his altered attitude toward life—the autocratic, harsh rule of the Prussian drill sergeant; the arrogance, dominance and dictation of those in command; the helplessness and insignificance of the private soldier beneath the frown or fury of his superiors—these conditions made young Richter think seriously about the proper relations of the ordinary individual to those in authority, and to ask what were the grand purposes of government so far as concerns the private citizen who carries the burden and receives the brunt of the decrees of his state.

When peace was declared and young Richter returned to his studies in the university his critical attitude towards the traditional relations between the holders of capital and the ordinary worker was noticed by his family and associates. The rights and immunities of those enjoying office, rank and the possession of vested interests, the hauteur and ruthlessness of those in control in old Prussia and the utter suppression of the individual who might resent arbitrary and intolerable treatment—these conditions, it appeared to him, held the common man in the same sort of thralldom to which the private soldier was subject within the army camps or cantonments.

Another complex of facts may have influenced him. In the middle years of the sixties Prussia and all Germany were seething with popular discontent incited largely by Ferdinand Lassalle. His brilliant abilities and stirring arguments compelled the favorable attention of Bismarck. August Richter may have been attracted, if not fascinated, by Lassalle's terrific attacks upon aristocratic monopolies in the government and industries. His "Open Letter" issued at the Workingmen's Congress at



Leipsic in May, 1863, had become at once the charter of the popular rule which the masses demanded and a tocsin call to arouse themselves in agitation.

Whatever the impelling reason it was not long before young Richter began to express "radical" opinions, neither common nor popular in the circles frequented by his family or neighbors. In consequence he began to encounter indignant criticism which irritated him and enhanced his discontent with the status quo.

In a letter to me dated at Long Beach, California, under date of June 9, 1920, dealing somewhat with his unhappy experiences during and following the World War is a paragraph that contains some biographical data about his days in Berlin which indicate conclusively that even in his "callow college days" August Richter was a young man of such force and attraction that men of light and influence were his confreres.

These last three years [1917-1920] make up a terrible period for many a good American not infected with a crazy hyper-patriotism. I have always considered myself a "good American" since I landed in New York in 1868, and even before that time. For it had been my good fortune to be intimately acquainted with several Americans living in Berlin, among whom I may only name Theodore S. Fay, a former secretary to the legations at London and Berlin, and minister resident in Switzerland, first appointed by President Pierce, but in later years a stout Republican, and during the Civil War very active in enlightening the European mind regarding the causes and developments that led to the war.

Among other acquaintances intimately associated with the United States whom he met in 1867 was a fellow German who had been in the German consular service at Chicago. He brought back favorable memories of his sojourn in that thriving city. His enthusiastic accounts of the opportunities for aspiring young men in this "land of liberty" soon aroused a very lively interest in young Richter. His growing discontent with the economic and political conditions controlling in Prussia had caused him to discontinue, or at least, to slacken his studies in medicine. His irritation made him prone to look elsewhere. Meantime, he had met, wooed and won the hand of an attractive young lady, Fräulein Anna May, of Stettin, Pomerania, daughter of one of the leading manufacturers of fine cutlery. She was a young

woman of refinement, highly educated in music and literature and with the traditions and esprit of her social rank.

The alluring pictures of the life o'er seas in this land of fair promise became at last too much for young Richter to withstand. He decided to emigrate. But his decision produced storms at home and within the circle of his fiancée. His brother offered him an advantageous partnership in a very prosperous business, but he rejected the offer and permanently alienated his brother from whom he was always estranged in consequence of the bitterness attending the severance of their relations. It was the soreness of heart produced by his departure which explains his later reticence about himself and his family in the old homeland.

August Richter and Miss May were married on May 12, 1868, and the next day they started for the United States.

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The young immigrant's initial experiences in New York City where he landed were varied. Among his first ventures was an interesting undertaking—the purchase and administration of a circulating library. Its success, however, was not sufficient to justify its continuance, but it indicates the strong literary inclinations of the immigrant which he ever after displayed. He was soon attached to the writing staff of *Arbeiter Union*, the organ of the Trades Unions of New York City, and he thereby came under the influence of the notable educator and editor, Dr. Adolph Douai. Another valued acquaintance with whom he became associated was the brilliant Frederick Kapp, an attorney at law and publicist of distinction—later to achieve more fame as a member of the Reichstag of the German Empire when the puissant Bismarck controlled counsels.

In 1871 Mr. Richter purchased the German paper, *Anzeiger für Paterson* (N. J.), the name of which he immediately changed to *New Jersey Staats-Zeitung*. Industrial conditions in that manufacturing city were then disturbed by bitter contention between the workers in the silk mills and their employers. The new editor of the *Staats-Zeitung* was soon enflamed by the eloquent appeals and protests of the leaders of the strikers and espoused their cause enthusiastically in his editorial columns. Like many another ardent young idealist he had not reckoned



with his advertisers and patrons. They suddenly deserted him, profits and friends fell away, and he could not go forward with shrinking bank balances and in 1872 he sold his interest in the paper and concluded that journalism was not the best field for his abilities, ideals and temperament. He removed to Buffalo and in 1873 returned to his studies in medicine, entering a medical college in that city whence he graduated in due course. He then began to look about for a favorable locus wherein to practice his profession.

The fair fame of Iowa *ad interim* had become known to the young "Doctor in Medicine." During the forties and the fifties his German countrymen who fled from the oppressive rule of the Hohenzollerns and their minor confreres in arbitrary government had come by the thousands to this Mesopotamia. Their prosperity and happiness on the fertile farms on the rolling prairies and in the beautiful valleys in the western watershed of the Father of Waters and in the thriving cities on its banks were most alluring. All accounts confirmed the judgment of Prince de Joinville, years before, that Iowa was "*une ravissante contrée.*"

In 1876 Dr. Richter decided to emigrate to Iowa. He first settled in Lowden in Cedar County where he continued for two years. He then moved to Mt. Joy, located just north of Davenport in Scott County where he remained for five years. While he pursued his medical practice with diligence his general interest in men and things soon brought his pen again into active use. He had a keen eye for the interesting and picturesque phases of life roundabout him. The intimate contacts he had with his fellows in his professional work afforded him infinite variety. He became acquainted with Henry Matthey, Sr., editor and publisher of *Sternen-Banner* of Davenport (now *Iowa Reform*) and soon began sending him articles dealing either with current problems or describing local happenings. The annual county fair held at Mt. Joy with its usual kaleidoscopic variety afforded him many colorful themes for his facile pen. His articles attracted attention by their point and vividness. He was asked to write for *Der Demokrat*, also of Davenport, the oldest and the most extensively read German paper in central eastern Iowa.

In the latter part of 1879 Dr. Richter saw an attractive newspaper opening in Burlington, Iowa, and closed negotiations for editorial work (if not partial ownership) on the *Iowa Tribune*, a German daily which Theodor Guelich, founder of *Der Demokrat* in 1851, edited for many years. He got under way and moved his family, but the serious illness of Mrs. Richter and other adverse considerations caused him to give up his venture and return to Mt. Joy. Dr. Richter's irrepressible predisposition toward journalism led him into another venture in 1883. He decided to publish a bi-weekly which he entitled *Der Nord-westen*. It was to be devoted to serious, substantial articles, critical and literary in character, but although it ran for a short time his public was not ready.

In 1884 Dr. Richter was offered a position on the editorial staff of *Der Demokrat* which he could not resist. He gave up his medical practice in Mt. Joy, moved to Davenport and for thirty years devoted himself exclusively to editorial work. Both the efficiency and the esteem in which his work was held were signalized in 1888 when he was made editor in chief. From 1892 forward, however, he devoted himself almost entirely to political editorials and public questions.

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Dr. Richter had many general qualifications for a successful editor. He wrote easily, expressing himself concisely, pointedly and forcefully, in English and German alike. His sentences were compact and they "tracked," proceeding swiftly to his conclusion or objectives. He wrote in a clear, neat script that must have been a delight to his typesetters or compositors. He indulged in picturesque and vivid metaphors on occasion. If stirred his sentences were often pungent, and if he discerned crass inconsistency, or if he suspected double-dealing, his sarcasm was scathing and his wit biting. He had an artistic sense which had he decided to use his pen or pencil in pictorial expression would have insured him success as a cartoonist. His daughters recall their frequent use in decorations of birthday cards and Christmas and New Year's greetings for the family. He had poetical ability of no mean order, easily turning his fancies or feelings into telling rhythm or rime for those within



his intimate circle. For many years he wrote a poetical New Year's greeting for the readers of *Der Demokrat*. His familiarity with the classic literature of Greece and Rome and of Germany and of England enhanced the vigor and variety of his editorial exposition. He was one of the founders in 1888 of the Arion Society and its first president—an organization devoted to choral singing, in which he was much interested for years. While not a practical musician, although in his youth he was an adept with the flute, he was familiar with the history and technique of both musical and dramatic art to such an extent that his criticisms of concerts, operas and dramatic performances in the German and English theatres of Davenport were always read with great interest by the readers of *Der Demokrat*.

Mr. Harry Downer, for many years a fellow craftsman on one of the English contemporaries of Davenport, and himself a deliver in the history of Davenport, makes some observations in a letter to me that give us other facets:

\* \* \* the Doctor was a good newspaperman. \* \* \* He had a fund of humor which brightened his columns and an ability in lampooning \* \* \* that made the bug under his microscope squirm. He was an able champion of "personal liberty." \* \* \* He was a prodigious worker. \* \* \* He was a charming companion with just enough of the typical pessimism of the newspaper man to give piquancy to his conversation.

In his relations with the readers of *Der Demokrat* and with the general public Dr. Richter was notably under the control of Kant's Categorical Imperative. While not an *Achtundvierziger* ("Forty-eighter") he had all of their noteworthy moral traits—a blunt, outright, downright outspokenness in the expression of his opinions. He had a conscience which was Puritanical in its exactness and tyrannical in its insistence. If a thing *ought* to be then it *must* be. When he thought an act or policy wrong, or a menace to the general welfare, or a violation of basic human rights, he said so plainly and pointedly. He never dodged between false pretenses or shifty maneuvers; nor used sugar-coated words with a *double entendre*; nor tried to steer his way adroitly between the lines of prudence or profit or "pelf" and principle. No more did he try to coddle or cuddle the public with flattery or honeyed words; and no matter whether the entire public or

the potent majority might be against him or his view of the matter in issue. He gave his fellow burghers the best of yeoman service—when all and sundry of the heedless, thoughtless crowds were saying, or singing, or shouting after their wont, “Yes! Yes!! Yes!!!” he would send forth a thundering “everlasting No!!!” with true Carlylean emphasis. It is refreshing in these days to contemplate the sturdiness of such a character as Dr. Richter when public discussion—if we so describe it—seems to be the co-ordinated parts of a “Punch and Judy Show.” What is asserted to be public opinion seems to be the issue largely of “syndicated” ideas, “canned speeches” formulated or expressed *via* jazz orchestras, megaphones, phonographs, animated by some centralizing, co-ordinating, consolidating “bureau” or “council.”

By this I do not mean to imply that Dr. Richter was a sort of belligerent Teutonic Irishman who thought every one out of step but himself, and who was ever “agin the government.” With respect to the ordinary, prosaic minutia that constitutes the premises for life and industry for the normal man, he was in no dissent and seldom engaged in contentious comment. He was one with his fellows and all lovers of the fine things of nature and art in his admiration of, and desire for, the beautiful in literature and music, in painting and sculpture, and in the furtherance of science and popular education. It was in the field of politics and government wherein ardent advocates of popular reforms invade the sphere of the individual, and under the guise of personal and social hygiene invoke the coercion of the sovereign power that aroused him and impelled his protests and denunciation of the course of things round about him.

In ability, achievement and stern devotion, Dr. Richter was a worthy compeer of his notable predecessors in the editorial control of *Der Demokrat*—Theodor Guelich, 1851-1856, Theodor Olshausen, 1856-1861, Jens Peter Stibolt, 1861-1881. He was much more than a mere annalist, editor or penman. In disposition he was at once a student of men and things, and a statesman seeking to forward human liberty and progress in better social conditions. He was constantly delving into man's history and scrutinizing the conditions and factors controlling the personal and public conduct of his fellows and deducing



life's lessons therefrom. In his editorial work he was a man of intense personal feeling and high public purpose. He cared little for the applause of the heedless populace round about him, be they the loiterers in clubs and literary *quid nuncs*, or the boisterous folk in theatres and the market place; and he cared less for their disapproval.

Dr. Richter was an editor of the old school of journalism before these rushing days of "mass" production, consolidation and concentration of control and syndicated uniformity. While he appreciated the importance of the accounting and sales departments, he was more interested in his editorial section and in his articles on music and drama than in the reports of miscellaneous gossip or mere local happenings. He made no effort to "play up" or placate cliques or interests, persons or sections. He assumed that his readers were concerned with serious things and with serious discussion of matters in public controversy. He took life with a stern seriousness. While he had a keen sense of humor, discerning the ridiculous easily, he seldom indulged in ordinary humor; but he would expose the nonsense of a situation or the absurdities of popular contention by a nipping ironical phrase that made dissentients shrink from his mordant wit.

Dr. Richter's scientific studies in medicine and his practical experiences with human nature in therapeutics had a controlling influence in his political and social philosophy and in his editorial treatment of public questions. They made him more cautious in reaching and in expressing conclusions for he was aware of the multiplicity of conditions and factors affecting events and producing developments. They made him appreciate that physical and biological factors constitute the premises and the driving forces of human life; that "virtue and vices are products like sugar and vitriol"; and that heredity and environment are controlled by general laws which constitute nature at large. Furthermore his studies in medicine had taught him that nature's great medicaments are not found in drugs and sundry nostrums. Health and strength, capacity and character cannot be produced or insured by narcotics or stimulants, or by social clagues or by legislative programs which undertake to impose corrective discipline, or deterrents and thus coerce human nature and effort.

In considerable part his attitude towards many of the latter-day problems in life and politics were predetermined by his youthful recollections of autocracy in the old Prussian regime. The old "Liberals" of Prussia always resented and resisted the dictation of the monarchical system. The basic requirements for law and order call for a minimum of central control but with respect to the vast and various minutiae of common life he saw no reason for governmental direction or coercion. The law of nature in the development of character or strength is the law of use and disuse. Exercise is the highway of progress—self-assertion and self-discipline, not dependence on others, not direction from without or from above. Personal effort, personal accountability and personal responsibility—these are the key words of successful living for man and society.

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The philosophy which guided his thinking and controlled his daily practice—for he was one of those rare ones whose ordinary routine squared with his rationale of life and things—was exhibited in an interesting fashion when I first met him some three years after our correspondence had begun. It was at the close of the first session of the Eleventh Conference of Charities and Corrections in Davenport on the night of November 7, 1909, over which I chanced to preside. The chief speaker of the program had read an extended paper on "Criminal Making." The speaker, a sometime schoolman and then warden of the State Penitentiary at Fort Madison, expressed himself in vigorous and at times dramatic terms. His language was couched in spectacular rhetoric; his assertions were wide ranging and often daring. He denounced the sorry welter of crime which was then astonishing the public—as it continues to do—and he placed the blame for such developments squarely and solely upon "society," and particularly upon "the state" and "the schools"; and demanded more legislation, more education and more "communal effort" in the way of efficient reform. There were no *if's* or *and's* or *but's* in his discourse, and no mental reservations or qualifications. At the close of the meeting Dr. Richter asked me bluntly:

"How does the gentleman expect, or intend, to create a strong, self-reliant, self-respecting citizen? Is the state—or society—



to feed every child with a spoon and to hold each in leading strings throughout childhood and youth? and, if so, will not the state have to continue to hold the adult in leading strings!! What does he mean by character? Can the state by its decrees or statutes produce it, manufacture it at will, order it as from a store? If the state's agents, be they the constable or police or the teachers in our schools, undertake the colossal task of doing everything for the individual, relieving parents of their normal task of rearing their children, will they—the parents—ever be able to guide or assist in the actual formation of their characters? And if the state protects both parents and children against the natural consequences of ignorance, indolence and folly can we ever hope to develop intelligence, disciplined minds and self-directing men and women who will know how to earn their own way in the world and respect others' rights and keep the public peace? Won't we be creating more pauperism and more perversion by our increasing paternalism? I cannot understand his reasoning at all."

As my feelings and opinions concurred with his I gave no controversial rejoinders to his questions or comments. I was entirely interested in my impressions of the man—his alert eyes, their intense expression, the earnestness of his feelings and the rapier-like thrust of his questions. It was clear that a question and an answer put by Goethe clearly expressed his convictions:

*Welche Regierung die beste sei? Diejenige, die uns lehrt, uns selbst zu regieren.*

(What Government is best? That which teaches us to govern ourselves.)

Society, in the intervening years since, has been pursuing a sort of Rake's Progress in paternalism, and the multitudinous evils which confront us in this land of the free at all points of the compass ring are beginning to appall the hitherto heedless and reckless (or witless). Dr. Richter's incisive questions suggest some of the major causes.

Dr. Richter's sturdy individualism and the consistency of his private practice and public professions were displayed most interestingly in his course respecting the education of his children and their religious affiliations.

In his home life—which was both refuge and playground for

him, for he seldom frequented clubs or appeared at social gatherings—he enforced his ideas with a preciseness and rigor which was an interesting blend of Spartan sternness and congenial humanness. One of his daughters writes me of her happy memories of his practice of reading fairy stories to her and her sisters in the evening, partly to engage their interest in wholesome literature and partly to encourage their efforts at mastery of the German language—a form of diversion which he enjoyed equally with his youthful listeners. But when it came to their daily schoolwork he insisted sternly upon the Pestalozzian formula, “the only real help is self help.” He not only would not aid them in their lessons but insisted with a stern exactness upon each doing the specific assigned tasks and taking her share of the direct consequences of their good or ill effort, in this way securing habits of self-effort and self-confidence and thereby strength of character so essential in life’s successes. *Des Menschen Wille, das is sein Glück* (Man’s will—that shapes his fortune), this thought of Schiller’s guided him.

As was common with probably the majority of German refugees from university circles in the four decades from 1830 to 1870, Dr. Richter was not a churchman; and he was not a devotee of any creed and he did not affiliate with any sectarian group. The relations between the Prussian state and the state church of his day alienated rather than attracted him. The audacious criticisms of men and measures of either church or state in *Kneipen* of the *Burschenschaften* in the universities were usually heedless and reckless. The demands of rigorous scientific studies, the ruthless inquiries into causes and conditions producing effects in nature at large as well as in the realm of human pathology, naturally made the *Hochschuler* a critic of the ruthless sort. Dr. Richter left the University of Berlin either antagonistic to the church because of its alliance with the established order, or indifferent and agnostic so far as positive beliefs in the efficacy of creeds were concerned. But he was not of that disagreeable species of latter-day liberal who is intolerant towards those of the older faiths. His creed was that of the gentleman who lives and lets live, according the same consideration to them that he exacts for himself. His own daughters



attended and joined the churches of their choice, as their affiliations or inclinations prompted.

But Dr. Richter was not what many pious critics call with horrific import a "mere moralist"—indifferent, negative and passive in his attitude towards life and its fateful complexes of human want and woe and their amelioration. Even though his philosophical reflections or scientific conclusions might make him dubious as to the efficacy of much of the aggressive philanthropy of his day and generation, he was not contemptuous or inert in matters of social betterment. He took an active interest in the German Free Sunday School in Davenport in aiding its work. Dr. Richter was also an alert and influential member of the Ethical Culture Society, whose members were animated by an earnest philanthropy and zealous in the furtherance of greater human concern for the improvement of the social relations of men in modern times.

We may see the direction of the current by the feather floating in the air or the stream. So little things may give us unequivocal signs of the true inwardness of a man's character. As an editor of a daily newspaper Dr. Richter was in the way of sundry sorts of benefits such as "comps", *douceurs*, favors, passes, perquisites, purchaser's inside preferences, etc., etc. Usually they are offered and received frankly as in the nature of *quid pro quo* in return for advertising, or favorable public mention in news or editorial columns, and usually there is no question, pro or con, as to their propriety. But Dr. Richter would not accept passes or special favors from any public utility operating in or entering Davenport because he did not want to feel hampered by any sort of feeling that he should not freely criticise whenever he saw that which in his judgment called for adverse comment and perhaps drastic action in correction of programs or policies. He denied himself and family many an easy outing by his severe notions about such matters.

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Dr. Richter's career as editor of *Der Demokrat* was notable for his sturdy independence. He was a believer in ordinary political parties and in normal partisan procedure in the practical determinations of politics and government; but he was not

a purblind zealot for so-called party regularity. For sundry reasons he was a Republican in state and national matters, because that party had its inception in the antislavery agitation between 1854 and 1865 and stood for liberties and programs which were the objectives of the contenders for constitutional government in the Fatherland whence he emigrated. But when the paternalistic propaganda under the slogans "Temperance" and "Prohibition" got under headway in the late seventies and culminated in drastic legislation in Iowa in the eighties, Dr. Richter not only promptly protested but he balked at concurrence with the party's program and broke with its leadership.

As in these halcyon days, so in those days, partisan insistence on what was so inconsistently called "temperance" became fanatical and intolerant, public discussion rancorous, and dissentients were denounced in malevolent and often venomous terms. Dr. Richter thus suffered from the slings and arrows of harsh and arbitrary critics and maligners. But he knew that if a man thinks much in this vale of tears he is sure to be lonesome and he was not deterred, though often discouraged. In a striking fashion he effectively illustrated in his own life his theory of the separation of personal conduct and public interference. In his personal habits of life he demonstrated perfectly the old-time tradition—indeed the Biblical conception—of temperance. But he stood staunchly for the contention that he had no right to step across the street or into his neighbor's yard and compel others to observe his routine.

Many facts in our history made Dr. Richter resent with hot indignation the treatment he received. It was the revolt of the German Protestants of his Fatherland who had given the majority of the people of this land of liberty their norms and standards of freedom from clerical and governmental dictation in matters of religion. It was the "Forty-eighters" who resisted the oppressive tyranny of the harsh Hohenzollerns and fled therefrom to this country who had joined the antislavery forces and were major factors in putting Abraham Lincoln into the White House in 1861. If there was anything that they stood for it was liberty for the individual and they had no more respect for the "tyranny of the majority," as de Tocqueville



phrased it, than they had for the arbitrary dictation of the Hapsburgs or the Hohenzollerns. Unless man's conduct interfered grossly with the common peace and obstructed freedom of action, he knew of no principle of liberty or free government which justified governmental restrictions, and any infringement would induce constant increase of arbitrary government that would steadily progress towards hideous governmental espionage of private citizens.

One fact in the current debate of the "irrepressible" question he bitterly resented, namely, the popular assumption and the endlessly repeated assertion that his fellow Germans were alone, or chiefly, the resisters to "temperance" legislation. He knew and the public knew that there is just as much love of home and sobriety and temperance and abstemiousness among the German folk as among the English, or Irish or Scotch or Welsh or the Scandinavians. He knew and the public knew that "Native American" opposition to the slightest suggestion of restriction in the use of alcoholic stimulants has been continuously maintained by English and Scotch in the fastnesses of the Appalachian Mountains since the days of the Whiskey Rebellion in 1792 and if there is any pure blood, "100 per cent" Native American stock among us they may justly claim to be the scions of the dominant ilk. Furthermore he knew and the public knew that representatives of orthodox and evangelical churches of the purest Protestant faith asked and secured legislation which permitted their clergymen to obtain legal permits or licenses to obtain wine for use in communion services in the effective realization of the divine ordinances governing their holy ministrations. Finally, Dr. Richter knew and he knew that the public knew that the resistance of Germans to such drastic sumptuary laws was no more unrighteous than the resistance of our American forefathers to King George's legal enactments, or of the abolitionists and antislavery folk (among whom German "Forty-eighters" were numbered by the thousands) to the Fugitive Slave Law enacted in the Clay Compromise in 1850. Germans are just as conscientious as "ither ilk."

If Dr. Richter's spirit should return to his old-time haunts and walk again 'neath the glimpses of the moon we may wonder

what his reflections and comments might be as he contemplates the variegated results of the last decade of national "prohibition"—the gross disregard of the law in our large cities, the open and insidious perversion of public officials, police and juries, the swamping of our national judiciary with a miserable mass of petty criminal litigation, the overcrowding of our national prisons in consequence, the blunt refusal of great sovereign states—New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Wisconsin—to give authority to their administrative officers to fulfill their "concurrent" duties in the enforcement of the great national statute, the serious disturbance of international relations, especially on the northern border and on our ocean fronts, the horrible increases in crime and licentiousness among old and young alike (if we may believe one tenth part of what the daily press puts before its readers) in both flagrant and insidious practices, and concurrent increases in contempt for all law and order together with a horrible din of debate as to whether the whole program is a great success or an impudent farce—conditions so serious that our nation's President felt constrained to make present day developments the primary concern of his inaugural address, and effective reforms a major objective of his administration.

The dour, stiff-necked Englishman, John Hobbes, told his countrymen three centuries since that "the world goes right after trying every possible way of going wrong." How long must poor mortals flounder and wallow in futilities before they will discern the basic truth in the discrimination of Spinoza between the difficulties in enforcing the penalties in the case of *mala in se* and those attendant upon *mala prohibita*.

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So far as I can discover Dr. Richter did not continue, or display, his antagonism to capitalistic control of industry and employers, which apparently possessed him more or less when he left Germany and during his connection with the *Arbeiter Union* in New York and the *New Jersey Staats-Zeitung* in Paterson. His sharp experiences in Paterson probably chilled his ardor. First he found general conditions here vastly more to his liking. He was not irritated by the arrogance of ranks and aristocratic preferences. Further continued experience probably in-

duced the conclusion that the average capitalist and the average employer of common and skilled labor are just as considerate of their employees as the workers are of their employer's welfare. He probably saw enough of life to convince him that the alleged tyranny of capital is no more oppressive than the tyranny of organized labor. One does see very much of life at large and in its major details without discovering that liberty of action, freedom from coercion by either employers or employees, is the *via sacra* if individual and general social progress and prosperity and peace are to prevail in the land.

Controversies between managers and workers usually cannot be justly judged *en bloc* as has been the general practice—the “conservative” classes lumping all labor disputes together and presuming that petty or perversive reasoning controls the striking workers, and the “friends of labor” incontinently assuming naught but evil intent on the part of the directors of large business enterprises.

Dr. Richter's own experience as a dissident no doubt indicated to him that those who wish to maintain the status quo are just as honest, sane and publicly minded as those who insist on every one going with their crowd or program of reform. In other words, Dr. Richter throughout his editorial career on *Der Demokrat* dealt with each case in controversy, striving judicially to determine the issues upon the displays of the evidence, and neither condemning nor lauding a class or group in bulk. In short he followed Burke's great prudential injunction not to criticise or adjudge entire peoples adversely. He discussed men and measures on their merits; and this is the base rule of your true editor.

An effective illustration of Dr. Richter's altered attitude towards industrial and social problems is afforded in his editorial expression in *Der Demokrat* upon the Pullman strikers of 1894—perhaps it would be more accurate to say Eugene V. Debs's dramatic intervention therein via the “sympathetic strike” called by the American Railway Union in June. Considerable portions of a long editorial in the issue of June 29 are given:



## AMERICAN RAILWAY UNION BOYCOTTS PULLMAN CO.

Whatever the authorization to strike may be, it is nevertheless true that the public can have no sympathy with the boycott President Debs has ordered, and into which the public has been unreasonably and recklessly drawn. His managers are hotheads and puffed up fellows who in the height of momentary power have become unduly proud, while thousands of free citizens must obey their orders. Like children they are playing with fire unconscious of the devastating flame they might fan.

It is not unlikely that the notices given out from headquarters regarding the results of the strike are exaggerated. They come from people who have already lost their heads and are talking nonsense. Their reports are for the most part strongly exaggerated in order to spread false reports to the public regarding their following. The sensational press willingly aids them in this.

The Grand Mogul (Debs) could not let the opportunity pass of showing his great power. He proclaimed that all workers should support the boycott even if idleness in all trades should result. Previously he ordered 1500 workers in the Chicago Stockyards to strike.

Debs has declared that no violence should be practiced. It should be confined only to laying down the work: the railroads not to be hindered from hiring other workers, etc., etc. We know what those assurances mean. McBride issued those same orders at the beginning of the coal strike. He could not hold his excited mobs in check and murder, arson and other crimes resulted. Debs may experience the same. Scarcely forty-eight hours had passed after his boycott went into effect when violence occurred in the station at Hammond, Indiana.

Federal Judge Caldwell was right when he said to the strikers and strike sympathizers that when they laid down their work their places would be taken by others and those guilty of lawlessness would be punished severely.

The wantonly conceived boycott of Mr. Debs, moreover, shows signs of speedy collapse so plainly that his purpose of domination will fail.

Several significant facts stand out sharply in that editorial utterance:

First, there was no namby-pamby sentimentalism or shilly-shally about the "rights of organized labor" as against the "greed of capitalism" or the sinister rule of "big interests." It was a clear-cut, downright denunciation of a horrible attack upon the public peace, upon the rights of peaceful laborers to continue in their daily work in earning their livelihood. Second, Dr. Richter expressed no opinion upon the merits of the original strike at Pullman. Third, he saw clearly that a sympathetic

strike of the sort Debs was engineering was a colossal menace to the entire country. Fourth, he saw clearly that the pious declaration of Debs that no violence was to be sanctioned was but little else than a cynical incitement to lawlessness; and his prediction that greater violence would ensue was confirmed in the event. Fifth, his statement that Debs's "wantonly conceived boycott" was in the way of speedy collapse while not exactly verified, as assumed, it nevertheless almost immediately started forces of just reaction which brought the National Government into action and President Cleveland gave the country a magnificent demonstration of what law and order means under our National Constitution.

On July 8 in consequence of the rioting in Chicago and the inability of the federal judge, Peter Grosscup, to secure compliance with his injunction, President Cleveland issued his celebrated proclamation against the lawless bands and his command to General Miles to intervene with the national troops. Commenting editorially on the President's intervention Dr. Richter on July 10 pointedly observed:

The warning of the President seems already to have been obeyed for after yesterday's dispatch we see that the backbone of the strike is broken.

If the authorities from Chicago, Cook County and Illinois as well as Indiana, had done their duty at the beginning, then such frightful violences could not have happened. No people would have been killed, millions of dollars worth of valuable property would not have been seized and the industry and trade of the entire country would not have been crippled. Thousands of erring people would not have found themselves in the unpleasant situation of being punished as lawbreakers.

The same people, if they will admit their own blindness, may have the doubtful consolation of putting part of the responsibility of the negligence and cowardice on their chosen leaders.

Again it will be observed that Dr. Richter sees with no blurred vision, nor does he mince matters in comment. The so-called "friends of labor" had committed a colossal blunder and had become sheer lawbreakers of the worst sort. Again there was no flimsy discussion of the relative rights of the national or of the state governments, and no shadow of questioning of the imperative duty of the President to enforce the national laws

and protect the national dominion from crass anarchy. Finally, no one can discern any sly or subtle suggestion that because the governor of Illinois was a native of Germany that he thereby was either right or entitled to any special consideration—he and his entire proceedings were condemned as beyond tolerance if we are to have law and order and peace within the Republic.

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When the “populistic” agitation began to disturb party lines in the North Central and Western States in the late eighties and the early nineties, and under the leadership of William Jennings Bryan, then of Nebraska, began to control counsels in the Democratic party, Dr. Richter regarded its leadership with critical eyes. The adoption of Bryan’s entire program of “free silver” at the ratio of 16 to 1 by the national Democratic Convention at Chicago in 1896, together with his attack on the national Supreme Court and sundry other socialistic dogmas and nostrums, forced Dr. Richter at once to break with the “party of the people.” In the ensuing exciting campaign he fought Bryan with hammer and tongs and the prosperous Germans of eastern central Iowa and western Illinois followed his lead in solid phalanxes.

Following 1896 *Der Demokrat* for sixteen years generally supported the Republican party and its policies. When, however, violent dissensions began to split the party’s ranks in the middle and latter years of President Taft’s administration Dr. Richter began again to watch the currents and waves of popular discussion with a dubious eye. The erratic and tumultuous course of ex-President Roosevelt in 1912 did not enlist his enthusiasm or approval. The notorious Columbus speech of the Rough Rider on February 21, 1912, *Der Demokrat* treated with cynical coolness. When the ex-President “threw his hat into the ring” (February 26) in his announcement of his candidacy for the Republican nomination at Chicago in June *Der Demokrat* disclosed its attitude by the headline over the speech, “Roosevelt Throws Off the Mask”; and in an editorial expression the next day Dr. Richter bluntly discusses the situation:

A hot battle will now be fought between Roosevelt and Taft. Roosevelt must now fight in the open field; he may be a poacher no longer.



Roosevelt naturally runs as a Republican although he holds many populist-progressive doctrines. He will be the candidate of the so-called Progressive Republicans although on important questions, such as the tariff, he is a real Standpatter, and Mr. Taft is a stormy Progressive. In his seven years of the presidency, Mr. Roosevelt has not uttered one word in favor of tariff revision which our people are interested in. And what he says about trusts need bring no sorrow to the trust magnates for every trust may be maintained; they are good and useful. Roosevelt's new hobby horse is the "recall," the recall of officers, including judges. All judicial decisions which do not meet with the approval of a portion of the people he will have corrected and revised. \* \* \*

But it is not to be guaranteed that the condition will be bettered through the referendum or a vote of the people (*Urabstimmung*). When nine justices, five judges so, and four otherwise, then it is truly deplorable, but when such a decision is referred to the people, then as we have heretofore experienced, only a proportionate few voters will vote their own political judgment, or their prejudices, and nothing will be accomplished.

Roosevelt is a man of high-toned words and he woos the people with this gift of his. Of real deeds, he has in his long term as president not much to show. In this respect Taft has the preference. \* \* \*

That editorial impells many comments. There is an undertone of cynicism in it which illustrates Mr. Downer's observation effectively. Mr. Roosevelt was a veritable Fernando Furioso when proclaiming the rights of the people, but he spoke softly and held his "big stick" behind him when dealing with tariffs and trusts. He was far from being a Grover Cleveland. Our distinguished Chief Justice will have a medley of feelings should he learn that he was "a stormy Progressive." Dr. Richter was the old fashioned "liberal" in his insistence upon substantial tariff reforms—a subject that both Democrats and Republicans have shied from systematically more and more in the intervening years.

As he reflected upon the shifts and turns of popular opinion, or rather of the vagrant and variable popular prejudices which anon suddenly take form in gusts and flurries, now and then in hurricanes of violent fanatical feeling and partisan propaganda, driving the voters in a sort of bovine stampede, and which he had witnessed from time to time from the seventies to the twenties, Dr. Richter must have thought in the lines of Schiller

*Die wankelmüth 'ge Menge,  
Die jeder Wind hërumtreibt! Wehe dem,  
Der auf dies Rohr sich lehnet!—Mary Stuart.*

(The fickle multitude, which veers with every wind! Woe to him who leans on such a reed!)

*Die Mehrheit?  
Was ist die Mehrheit? Mehrheit ist der Unsinn;  
Verstand ist stets bei wen'gen nur gewesen.*  
\* \* \* \* \*

*Man soll die Stimmen wägen, und nicht zählen;  
Der Staat muss untergehn, früh oder spät,  
Wo Mehrheit siegt und Unverstand entscheidet.—Demetrius.*

(Majority? What does that mean? Sense has ever been centered in the few. \* \* \* Votes should be weighed not counted. That state must sooner or later go to wreck where numbers sway and ignorance decides.)

He viewed the uproar of the preliminaries of the Chicago convention of 1912 with grave concern and at the conclusion of that stormy conclave he declared, June 23: "A new party has long been a need of the country. The foremost citizens of the country have longed for it and would have gladly worked for it. But—in a Roosevelt party in view of Roosevelt's development we can have no confidence and cannot enthuse for same." As the campaign progressed and he saw that the Progressives and the Stand-patters were simply effectively committing political suicide, *Der Demokrat* frankly declared that in view of the situation it preferred the election of Mr. Wilson and so advised its readers.

The ensuing months did not insure him peace of mind. The course of President Wilson did not meet with his favor. In time a medley of reasons doubtless controlled his feelings. Chief among them was the erratic and unpredictable course of his secretary of state, William Jennings Bryan. His Mexican policy perplexed him—it seemed to be a series of stops and starts, neither flesh, fish nor fowl. When the war in Europe broke out, like many of his fellow Germans, he saw, or thought that he saw, a pro-British inclination in his general drifts of policy rather than a clear-cut program of neutrality. He voted for Mr. Hughes in 1916 and was not happy at the outcome. When we declared war in 1917 the skies became dismal with dark clouds, as we shall see.

*Ein Gelehrter hat keine langeweile.*

The keen observation of the poet, Jean Paul Richter, just quoted—a scholar does not suffer from ennui, or, if you please, has no sense of weariness—is a very apt characterization of the editor of *Der Demokrat* throughout his entire stewardship. To the ordinary poor mortal anxiously seeking diversion, or surcease of boredom, Dr. Richter led a very prosaic life. He was not an habitue of club rooms. He was not an expert at billiards; and he was not addicted to cards, dancing, or golf. In fact he had no dissipations and none of the popular diversions.

His circuit of activity was to the hurrying man on the street a dull round of daily duties done without variation and no fillip to stimulate zest in life. It began with his home and comprehended his office, and, anon, included the City Library in the basement of which were to be found in stacks the files of *Der Demokrat* and most of the other papers previously published in Davenport. But the quiet gentleman, garbed usually in solemn black, who pursued that daily circuit had no dull hours.

His immediate editorial task might absorb his mind, but if such was not the case he was not aimlessly twirling his thumbs or whiling away the time following floating fancies here and there. His day's program was always full—as soon as the regular day's task was achieved, and no extraordinary communal affairs attracted or commandeered his abilities and time, he, more likely than not, was delving in his library at home or in the stack room at the City Library gathering data upon subjects engaging his scholarly interest. Many of his daughters' recollections of their father cluster about his bringing home the big unwieldy volumes of *Der Demokrat* and his going over them carefully searching for items about the history of the city. He was a light sleeper and he generally worked into the small hours of the next morning.

His efforts in such researches were not of the "off-and-on" sort, spasmodic, sporadic and erratic. They were definite, systematic and pursued with a religious persistence and with specific objectives. His findings were carefully incorporated in notes and extracts and consecutively filed in folios for use in his daily editorial work, for articles he prepared for historical occasions



or magazines, and for the *Magnum Opus* he fondly hoped sometime to find time to write. It was his collections of notes that enabled him to answer so promptly and so completely my many letters to him asking for specific data about a subject not familiar to scholars even—concerning which more later.

Dr. Richter's literary work outside of his daily contributions to the editorial and literary columns of *Der Demokrat* was not extensive, although his capacity for such work was marked had he so determined. In 1901 he published a scholarly article in the pages of *Deutsche-Amerikanische Geschichtsblaetter der Deutsch-Amerikanischen Historischen Gesellschaft von Illinois* (pp. 35-47) under the caption, "*Primitive Rechtspflege im Westen*" in which he discusses and displays the *Volksjustiz*, *Recht des Individuums* and *Naturjustiz* as they took form in "Squatter Rights," "Claim-Jumpers" and "Claim Clubs" in the formative days of Iowa in the forties and fifties. He clearly sensed the social significance of those interesting "extra-legal" institutions of our arrogant and lawless pioneers. In the same publication in January, 1911, (pp. 56-57) he published a brief biographical sketch of his fellow-townsmen, entitled "Emil Geisler—Davenport."

In 1920 he contributed to the December issue of the *Palimpsest* at Iowa City an interesting biographical sketch or Appreciation of Clint Parkhurst, a man of brilliant parts who achieved local and some state fame as a poet, a sometime resident of LeClaire (as was also Col. W. F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill"). It is a sympathetic and vivacious narrative. One sentence, "In 1896 in his temporary Tusculum, the Soldier's Home of Virginia, he [Parkhurst] wrote a historical romance concerning the Black Hawk War entitled 'A Military Belle,'" indicates familiarity with the history and literature of Latium.

Aside from his *Geschichte von Davenport* and his *True History of Scott County*, concerning which more later, the only other considerable scholarly effort of Dr. Richter was his *Die Davenport Turner Gemeinde: Gedenkschrift in Ihrem Goldenen Jubiläum, 3 August, 1902*—a substantial brochure of 111 pages. The subject was one that engaged his interest intimately for many reasons other than the fact that he was for many years a mem-

ber. Many, perhaps most, of the finest memories of the liberty-loving Germans cluster about and in the history of the *Turngemeinde* or *Vereine* of the Fatherland and of this country. This assertion is certainly true if we include the *Burschenschaften* of the students of the universities as part and parcel of the Turner movement. Their historic origin during the *Sturm und Drang* days of the Napoleonic oppression in the Gymnastic School of Frederick Ludwig Jahn, who suffered such martyrdom in the cause of human freedom in his Fatherland, made their history, their organization and work, an inspiring tradition. They consolidated grand objectives in a striking fashion. They realized the noted injunction of the shrewd satirist of Rome, Juvenal, *mens sana in corpore sano*, and they achieved the maximum of patriotism and the maximum of prudence at the same time. They may be justly accredited with organizing the victory of Leipsic. In this country they stood steadfastly for "*Freiheit, Bildung, und Wohlstand für Alle*" (Freedom, Culture, and Prosperity for all), to quote Mrs. Christian Mueller, daughter of one of Davenport's notable Holsteiners, Hans Reimer Claussen, in one of the speeches delivered in their Jubilee at Davenport. Dr. Richter recounts with just pride the great influence which the *Turngemeinde* had in resisting the onslaughts of Know-Nothingism and in promoting the antislavery movements and in the preservation of the Union on the outbreak of the Civil War. The work of the Turners of Davenport was typical of the Turners throughout the North—a work which our historians have but partially appreciated.

(Concluded in July Annals)

## THE ARBOR DAY, PARK AND CONSERVATION MOVEMENTS IN IOWA

By L. H. PAMMEL

(Continued from January Number)

### CONSERVATION

J. M. Elder of Concord, Iowa, Hancock County, a pioneer settler who made large contributions to the horticulture of the state, and especially Hancock County, was an early friend of conservation, writing under the title of "Friends and Enemies."<sup>241</sup> It was my pleasure to know Mr. Elder as a warm friend of the great out-of-doors. In the paper above referred to he made a strong plea for the conservation of useful birds and animals, and deprecated the destruction of our noble animals, especially the destruction of the beaver, and said that we would see the destruction of the other animals like the antelope, deer, elk and moose, unless we speedily enacted laws for their protection. He made a plea for the hawks and owls, who catch rodents like mice. He advocated giving the youth instruction in the knowledge of our friends in the lower order of creation in order to distinguish friends from enemies. And here we may add the plea of W. S. Warfield, "A Bird Lover's Garden," who notes the usefulness of elderberry (*Sambucus Canadensis*), wild crab, and hawthorn. Dr. T. C. Stephens<sup>242</sup> gives "A Review of Wild Life Protection in Iowa." He gives Major Lacey credit for his pioneer work and also credits the great labor of W. T. Hornaday. This paper is somewhat historical and reviews the progress of this kind of conservation. A paper by O. A. Byington,<sup>243</sup> and John C. Hartman<sup>244</sup> in a paper "A Good Year for a Good Cause" refer to the federal laws and the closed season for the quail and prairie chicken.

Former Governor George W. Clarke in a most interesting paper, "Pages from Bygone Days in and About Drakeville, Iowa,"<sup>245</sup> refers to the abundance of animal and native plant life in the region of Drakesville sixty-four years ago.

"In those days there was a bird life that is gone, never to be

<sup>241</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XXV, p. 71, 1891.

<sup>242</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIII, p. 390, 1919.

<sup>243</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIII, p. 398, 1919.

<sup>244</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIII, p. 396, 1919.

<sup>245</sup>ANNALS OF IOWA, Vol. XIV, pp. 323-56, 1924, 5 f.



seen again except in the imagination of the 'old settler.' How real it was in the springtime when the migratory birds were in the sky and among the trees! The long lines of pigeons stretching across the sky for miles, sweeping towards the north! And the majestic sweep of the wild geese led by an old gander, while ducks were in great abundance."

Then he discusses in a very interesting way when on spring mornings the cock prairie chicken could be heard in every direction. The "oom-boom-boom-boo" could be heard on every hand, and there were large numbers of these fine prairie chickens perched upon the rail fences. Governor Clarke describes the drumming of the pheasant. There are not many of these noble birds left.<sup>246</sup>

One of the journals published in Iowa, *The Wilson Bulletin*, a quarterly magazine of Ornithology, published in Iowa under the auspices of the Wilson Ornithological Club, with Dr. T. C. Stephens<sup>247</sup> as editor, presents many fine items on conservation. An interesting item on the movement to plant the ring necked pheasant and possibly the Hungarian partridge in suitable areas throughout the country occurs in the September issue of the magazine.

Evidently Dr. Stephens is opposed, and rightfully I believe, to supplanting our native birds by these introduced species. He states: "Before any concerted effort in behalf of bird protection can be again undertaken, new declarations and alignments will have to be made and appraised. The last great piece of federal legislation in behalf of bird life, which was passed by Congress early in 1929, was sponsored chiefly by Dr. Hornaday and a section of sportsmen headed by *Forest and Stream* and *Outdoor Life*. It is our understanding and belief that the National Association of Audubon Societies had the misfortune to be aligned with the opponents of this greatest piece of bird protection ever enacted, with the possible exception of the Migra-

<sup>246</sup>I might call attention to the myriads of passenger pigeons migrating north in the spring and southward in the autumn at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, not far from the Iowa line. In the seventies these flocks of pigeons sometimes reached from the banks of the Mississippi to the bluffs three miles away. They were caught in nets and slaughtered and taken to market by the wagon load and sent to Chicago, New York and Boston. Large numbers of ruffed grouse and prairie chicken occurred in the same region. The ruffed grouse is now rare and the prairie chicken still rarer. I have not seen one for years in that vicinity and the passenger pigeon is gone.

<sup>247</sup>*The Wilson Bulletin*, Vol. XLI, p. 187, 1929.

tory Bird Law. So we believe that a new alignment in bird protection leadership must develop in the next few years."

Dr. B. Shimek<sup>248</sup> on the subject of conservation discusses injudicious drainage. The engineers should not always decide the matter. Community interests are greater than the individual. In another paper,<sup>249</sup> "Iowa's River Bluffs," he urges reforestation. Beauty is sentiment; it is far better than sordid interests. In a paper on "Conservation for Natural Scenery in Iowa"<sup>250</sup> he states that the requests for parks come from all persons, but there are other reasons for conservation. A list of national parks is also given by him.<sup>251</sup>

The necessity for birds was shown by Mrs. Florence L. Small<sup>252</sup> in a paper, "Utility of Birds in Orchard and Woodland." She stated that in 1900 there were 6,000,000 farms in the United States with 812,000,000 acres in cultivation. The loss from insects amounts to \$1,000,000,000. The birds and forests are important for the farms of the United States. Frank Pellett<sup>253</sup> had two excellent papers on the relation of birds to agriculture, one of these on the catbird and robin, and one on birds of prey and the use of these birds on the destruction of mice and other rodents. In this connection mention may be made of the bird refuge started by Mr. Pellett on his home place about five miles from Atlantic, now also a plant refuge. Mr. Pellet aims to give woodland plants and birds a refuge.

Ellison Orr in a paper, "Conservation and Education,"<sup>254</sup> urges that we give more attention to the educational side of conservation.

Eugene Secor in a paper, "A Glance Backward,"<sup>255</sup> refers to the destruction of magnificent walnut trees in Iowa. He refers to the introduction of the white willow in Iowa, 1865-66, as the beginning of windbreak planting. Even today he says persons look at a tree to see how much cordwood it will make.

Fred Smith<sup>256</sup> makes a plea for the growing of our native wild

<sup>248</sup>*Report Ia. State Hort. Soc.*, Vol. V, p. 61, 1871.

<sup>249</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XLVII, p. 128, 1913.

<sup>250</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIII, p. 374, 1919.

<sup>251</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIII, p. 364, 1919.

<sup>252</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XLVI, p. 298, 1912.

<sup>253</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XLIII, p. 154, 1909.

<sup>254</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIV, p. 351, 1920.

<sup>255</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. L, p. 51, 1916.

<sup>256</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LI, p. 484, 1917.



The famous Lowenberg elm and white pine near Ottumwa, planted in pioneer times in Iowa.



flowers. These plants should be given natural conditions. H. S. Conard in one of his papers read before the Iowa Conservation Association makes a plea for our wild flowers.

In a paper, "Relation of the Community to the Preservation of Wild Plants,"<sup>257</sup> he says: "Those of us who live in temperate climes have a natural heritage we would do well to appreciate. No, my friends, the glory of the earth covered in unbroken verdure and adorned with acres and miles of brilliant flowers is given only for the delectation of the dwellers in temperate zones." Today many people in Iowa are making use of our native plant material.

H. S. Dart<sup>258</sup> on the subject of "The Companionship of Trees" says it is important that we keep before the public the sentiment in regard to the tree grown old, and in the different questions that come up that we remember the sentiment expressed in the lines:

Woodman spare that tree,  
Touch not a single bough.  
In youth it sheltered me,  
And I'll protect it now.

It is important to instruct the youth if we wish to plant for the future. This has been recently so well expressed by Dr. J. N. Martin<sup>259</sup> also, that if conservation is to come before the people it must be taught in the public schools.

James H. Lees in "Some Geologic Aspects of Conservation"<sup>260</sup> gives in a concise and good form the geology from the standpoint of conservation. It is a fine brief treatise.

T. C. Tanner in "The Rural Home"<sup>261</sup> quotes Dr. Beardshear saying "In the town we have the limited horizon, in the country we have a horizon touching the friendliness of the very tree tops and illuminated by glories of myriad stellar worlds."

A. Lefevre<sup>262</sup> in "The Tree" says "I believe it to be the king of all plant life." He calls attention to the sequoia as the oldest living thing.

Dr. B. Shimek<sup>263</sup> made an eloquent plea to interest the public

<sup>257</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LIII, p. 385, 1919.

<sup>258</sup>*Report Northern Ia. Hort. Soc.*, Vol. XXV, p. 75, 1891.

<sup>259</sup>*Bul. Ia. State Parks*, Vol. III, p. 67, 1925.

<sup>260</sup>*Report Ia. State Hort. Soc.*, Vol. LIII, p. 410, 1919.

<sup>261</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LI, p. 109, 1917.

<sup>262</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. LI, p. 302, 1917.

<sup>263</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XLIV, p. 65, 1910.

in forestry and reported a resolution on conservation, and extolled the work of Gifford Pinchot on forestry and conservation.

L. H. Pammel,<sup>264</sup> at a meeting of the Horticultural Society in 1901, reported a resolution to set aside some 800,000 acres of land and water for a national park and a forest reserve in Minnesota. There was a bill before Congress on a proposed purchase in Minnesota, and other waste lands in Wisconsin for the same purpose, and that the forestry work be co-ordinated and consolidated. The national forests were then taken care of by the United States Geological Survey, the United States Land Office and the United States Department of Agriculture. The society recommended that this work preferably be taken care of by the Department of Agriculture. This actually was later done largely through the efforts of the scientists and botanists of the country and Major John F. Lacey.

Governor William Larrabee should be counted among the early conservationists of Iowa.<sup>265</sup> On his place he set out a large number of trees, especially white pine. These trees grew splendidly and constituted an object lesson to the people of that community of what can be done in the way of growing trees.

Miss Fern Bonnell of Iowa City writes that James H. Bonnell set out some white pine trees in front of their present house in May, 1855. One of them now measures nine feet in circumference eighteen inches above the ground. He also set out some elm trees in 1853 which are now nine feet in circumference. (See cut on page 102.)

Many splendid articles on conservation are contained in the reports of the *Ames Forester*. Mention might be made of articles by such men as G. B. MacDonald, G. C. Morbeck, J. A. Larsen, D. S. Jeffers, Fred Trenk, Arthur Carhart, and J. E. Guthrie, and also the annual report of the Iowa Conservation Association, which was ably edited by Prof. G. B. MacDonald. Many fine papers on conservation will be found in these volumes. Unfortunately the volumes are out of print.

Dr. B. Shimek,<sup>266</sup> always interested in conservation, had charge of a school of instruction on conservation at the State University. The first meeting was held in 1925. This school has done

<sup>264</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XXXV, p. 93, 1901, 14 f.

<sup>265</sup>*Bull. Ia. State Parks*, Vol. III, p. 67, 1925.

<sup>266</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 43, 1925.

much free service among the teachers of the state and others who attended the meetings. The value of this school will be felt for years to come.

There are also many fine articles in the *Iowa Conservation Magazine* by Frederick J. Lazell, W. T. Hornaday, H. B. Bailey, B. Shimek, J. H. Lees, G. B. MacDonald, L. H. Pammel, Mrs. H. J. Taylor, T. C. Stephens, Mrs. C. H. McNider, Ellison Orr, Rev. George Bennett, Charles J. Spiker, Thomas H. Macbride, Kathleen M. Hemphill, Edgar R. Harlan, Stephen T. Mather, George F. Kay, Ervin E. Reed, Carrie Sondrol, Robert B. Wylie, Mrs. Francis E. Whitley and Florence L. Clark.

Seven volumes of the *Iowa Conservation Magazine* were issued. These volumes will be found invaluable for those interested in conservation.

About the time of the close of the life of Rev. George Bennett a journal was started by him known as *Wild Ways*. Only one number was issued. Rev. Bennett was responsible in part for the editorial material in the *Iowa Conservation Magazine*. A sketch of his life was published in *Horizons* for 1928.

The quarterly journal, *Horizons*, contains much valuable material pertaining to conservation and parks. This is largely gotten out under the direction of Prof. P. H. Elwood.

Much detailed information concerning the conservation movement will be found in the *Iowa Conservation Magazine* on such topics as "The Passage of the Quail Bill"<sup>267</sup> by O. A. Byington, "What was Accomplished in Regard to State Parks in the Last General Assembly"<sup>268</sup> by B. J. Horchem, who was a very active supporter of conservation and park work while a member of the legislature, and such articles as "Preserving the Indian Mounds Along the Mississippi River"<sup>269</sup> by Ellison Orr, "Conservation of Natural Scenery in Iowa"<sup>270</sup> by Prof. Shimek, "In the Interest of Nature Conservation"<sup>271</sup> by Rev. George Bennett, and "Bird Conservation"<sup>272</sup> by Althea R. Sherman, in which she makes a plea to erect a monument to the birds of Iowa, saying "To Iowa birds no monuments have been raised, but yet it is a

<sup>267</sup>*Iowa Conservation Magazine*, Vol. I, p. 35, 1917.

<sup>268</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 36, 1917.

<sup>269</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 43, 1917.

<sup>270</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 52, 1917.

<sup>271</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 59, 1917.

<sup>272</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 60, 1917.



safe venture to say that the people of no other state in the Union have received greater benefits from birds, while doing so little to honor their benefactors." Ervin E. Reed of Monticello in "A Page of the Rock Record"<sup>273</sup> gives a plea for the preservation of the rocks found in a proposed park near Monticello. The park proposed included river, river plain, bluffs, hills and woods. He calls attention to the fact that Prof. Calvin when a young man taught school in the vicinity of this proposed park and that he and Dr. Macbride wandered over these very hills and studied these fossils. There we find the true Dolomite limestone.

Mrs. Francis Edmund Whitley,<sup>274</sup> always interested in state parks, published a splendid paper on our state parks in which she makes the following statement: "Looking back to the beginnings of the movement for the creation of state parks, it seems strange to recall the hesitation with which the idea was first received. Now the more intelligent citizen is ready to admit that not less, but more parks are desirable, for they have so conclusively demonstrated their value from every point of view."

#### CONSERVATION COUNCIL

The Meredith Publishing Company, in order to bring together conservation interests of the state, called a meeting in the offices of the Meredith Publishing Company. This meeting was presided over by E. N. Hopkins. At this meeting was organized the Iowa Council of Conservation Organization.<sup>275</sup> The purpose of this council was to bring all of the conservation interests together in one body so that the legislative work of conservation might become more effective. There were representatives from the Audubon Society, Iowa Conservation Association, Garden Clubs, Farm Bureau, Iowa State Horticultural Society, Iowa State Board of Conservation, and Isaac Walton League.

The Isaac Walton League has in recent years taken a splendid part in the conservation of our natural resources, and this organization in Iowa is recorded as favoring an expansion of the park system. This organization recognizes the importance of recreation.

The Fish and Game Department has done much along the

<sup>273</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 96, 1921.

<sup>274</sup>*Bul. Iowa State Parks*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 15, 1923.

<sup>275</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 52, 1926.

lines of conservation. The present game warden, W. E. Albert, who received his first appointment in 1919, has sanctioned practically all of the dams placed at the outlets of the lakes, and those were constructed out of the funds of the Fish and Game Department. It maintains, in the interest of conservation, fish hatcheries; one trout, in the Backbone State Park in Delaware County, as well as fish hatcheries at Clear Lake, Spirit Lake and elsewhere. The department also does much fish rescue work along the Mississippi River. The fish rescued are distributed in the interior waters of the state. The department also looks after the violation of fish and game laws.

#### CONSERVATION OF SOIL WATER

Attention may be called to an interesting editorial by E. R. Harlan in *ANNALS OF IOWA* entitled "Scheme for Conserving Iowa Subsoil Moisture"<sup>276</sup> in which the author calls attention to the rapid runoff of water and the necessity of conserving it. Dr. S. W. Beyer in a very comprehensive address on "Some Problems in Conservation"<sup>277</sup> calls attention to the removal of the natural vegetation which subjects the land to undue washing by rain and running water. He calls attention to the importance of conserving the ground water as a reserve supply from the standpoint of farm crops. It is a very interesting discussion of ground water. He quotes W J McGee<sup>278</sup> as follows: "The chief cause of lowering subsoil water—the waste of storm and thaw water through surface runoff—is remediable, and with the advancement of science is bound to be remedied. Dr. McGee has made an exhaustive investigation of the lowering of the water level. He states that the average lowering for the entire country is about nine feet and for Iowa is twelve and one-half feet during the fifty years preceding 1910.

A very interesting study made under my direction by I. T. Bode,<sup>279</sup> "The Relation of the Smaller Forest Areas in Non-forested Regions to Evaporation and Movement of Soil Water," indicated in the case of the Backbone State Park in Delaware County that hillsides covered with trees retarded the flow of

<sup>276</sup>*ANNALS OF IOWA*, Vol. XV, p. 624, 1927.

<sup>277</sup>*Proc. Ia. Acad. Sci.*, Vol. XXVI, p. 37, 1919.

<sup>278</sup>*Bul. Bur. of Soils*, Vol. 92, p. 178.

<sup>279</sup>*Proc. Ia. Acad. of Sci.*, Vol. XXVII, p. 137, 1920.

water very materially. More moisture was found on tree covered slopes than those covered with grass.

There is also a very interesting discussion of the lowering of the water level in Iowa by James H. Lees<sup>280</sup> under the title of "Well Water Recessions in Iowa." This paper discusses the five glacial drift sheets in Iowa, beginning with the oldest, the Nebraskan, followed by the Kansan, the Illinoisian, Iowan, and Wisconsin. The statement is made that where a lowering of water level in wells is noticed it is variously attributed to tiling and ditch drainage in so far as shallow changes are concerned, to greater demands from a vastly increased amount of stock, to local causes such as clogging of the aquifer, overdrafts on individual wells, or to the exhaustion of sand or gravel beds which had supplied wells.

The transpiration of water from plants has some effect upon the lowering of soil water. He quotes Raphael Zon in his paper, "Forests and Water in the Light of Scientific Investigations," that broadleaf forests intercept and return directly to the atmosphere 13 to 8.48 percent of the water. The statement is made, quoting from Floyd Nagler that the runoff of most Iowa streams is close to one-fifth of the rainfall. He quotes Dr. Bakke that a growing crop of corn uses in our climate about one-third of the annual rainfall and that the amount of water transpired by an acre of wheat is as much as 900 tons.

#### CONFERENCE ON AQUATIC RESOURCES

During the month of August, 1923, in connection with the American School of Wild Life Protection at McGregor, a conference on aquatic resources was held, which was attended by delegates from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa and several representatives from the national government. This conference discussed the clam production, fish farms and water resources. The conference passed resolutions asking that every effort be made to stop the drainage of the Winneshiek slough because of the great value of this slough for fish and clams. The conference elected Dr. A. T. Rasmussen of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, president, and Willis Bickel of McGregor, secretary.

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<sup>280</sup>Iowa Geol. Survey, Vol. XXX, p. 375-400, 1920, 5 f.



W. H. Dilg, president of the Isaac Walton League and an ardent champion for the preservation of this and other similar bodies of water in the Mississippi Valley, was present at this conference. Representatives from the United States Bureau of Fisheries were present.

Papers were read by R. L. Barney<sup>281</sup> on "The Relation of Reclamation of Bottom Lands to Mussel Culture," by A. T. Rasmussen<sup>282</sup> on "The Mississippi Valley Conference on the Value of Aquatic Resources," and a paper by Dr. B. Shimek<sup>283</sup> on "Drainage of the Mississippi Sloughs a Mistake," one by Carlos Avery<sup>284</sup> on "Preservation of Water Areas Vital to Wild Life" and a paper by C. F. Culler<sup>285</sup> on "Depletion of Aquatic Resources, Causes and Remedial Measures."

As a result of this conference there was established by Congress a wild life refuge.<sup>286</sup> Members of the American School of Wild Life Protection, W. H. Dilg, A. L. Bakke, Congressman G. N. Haugen, Mrs. Francis E. Whitley, B. Shimek and others of Iowa were instrumental in the passing of this bill, and of course a large amount of credit should be given to the United States Biological Survey.

#### LAKE SURVEY

One of the fine conservation contributions is the *Report on Iowa Lakes and Lake Beds* by the State Highway Commission. While George W. Clarke was governor of Iowa a law was passed directing the highway commission make a report on the meandered lakes and lake beds of the state. This law is contained in Part Second, Chapter 2-B, Supplemental Supplement, 1915. J. W. Holden, H. C. Beard and A. Marston were members of the Highway Commission. A summary of the Report is as follows:

"Report of crop surveys in the vicinity of various lakes to ascertain damages resulting from black birds, prepared by Agricultural Experiment Station under direction of Prof. H. D. Hughes.

<sup>281</sup>*Ibid.*, Ia, *State Parks*, Vol. I, No. 2, p. 13, 1923.

<sup>282</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 2, p. 11, 1923.

<sup>283</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 2, p. 15, 1923.

<sup>284</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 12, 1923.

<sup>285</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 9, 1923.

<sup>286</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, No. 5, p. 91, 1923.

"Report on the vegetation of Iowa lakes, prepared by Department of Botany under direction of Prof. L. H. Pammel.

"Report on possibilities of improving Iowa's lake shores by forestation, prepared by Prof. G. B. MacDonald, Department of Horticulture and Forestry, Iowa State College."

The study of the vegetation along Iowa lakes was done under my direction by J. L. Seal and L. W. Durrell.

This volume contains literature on lake vegetation with reference especially to the work of Dr. B. Shimek,<sup>287</sup> "Notes on Aquatic Plants from Northern Iowa," and a paper by R. I. Cratty, "Notes on the Aquatic Phenogams of Iowa,"<sup>288</sup> papers by Robert Wylie<sup>289</sup> and by R. E. Buchanan,<sup>290</sup> and references to earlier literature on aquatic plants. T. J. Fitzpatrick<sup>291</sup> and J. C. Arthur<sup>292</sup> made contributions to the flora of Iowa.

The Highway Commission made definite recommendations concerning the conservation of certain lakes. This report deserves a large place in the conservation literature in this state. It is also invaluable for the many fine maps printed with the report.

#### IOWA STATE DRAINAGE WATERWAYS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Iowa State Drainage Waterways and Conservation Commission created by the act of the Thirty-third General Assembly made a report to Governor Carroll on December 31, 1910.<sup>293</sup> This commission consisted of A. C. Miller, Des Moines; L. W. Anderson, Cedar Rapids; E. A. Burgess, Sioux City; A. F. Frudden, Dubuque; I. W. Keerl, Mason City; T. H. Macbride, Iowa City; and W. H. Stevenson, Ames. A. C. Miller was chairman and L. V. Hites, secretary and engineer. The Executive Committee consisted of A. C. Miller, T. H. Macbride, and W. H. Stevenson.

The subject matters considered in this report were drainage and conservation and C. G. Elliott, chief of drainage investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture, made an

<sup>287</sup>*Bul. Laboratories of Nat. Hist., State Univ. of Ia., Vol. VII, pp. 1-90.*

<sup>288</sup>*Ibid., Vol. III, pp. 136-52.*

<sup>289</sup>*Proc. Ia. Acad. Sci., Vol. XIX, p. 131, 1912.*

<sup>290</sup>*Ibid., Vol. XIV, pp. 47-84, 1907.*

<sup>291</sup>*Manual of Flowering Plants of Iowa, 1899.*

<sup>292</sup>*Proc. Davenport Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, pp. 64-75, 1882.*

<sup>293</sup>*Rept. of State Drainage Waterways and Conservation Commission, pp. 1-206; Appendix A, pp. 209-210; Appendix B, Maps Pl 1-23, 1911.*

extensive report on drainage, and O. G. Baxter discussed the drainage of the West Fork of the Des Moines River.

There is an exhaustive report on the development of water power and an exhaustive treatment of the Boone River development by L. V. Hites, and a paper on "Water Power of Northeastern Iowa" by W. F. Bickel, in which he concludes: "The whole industry would be benefited provided the state had some hand in the advisement and supervision over even the smallest improvements."

The article on "Soil," though not signed, was written by Dr. W. H. Stevenson. He says: "The building up of the fertility of our soils and the establishing of permanent systems of agriculture in our commonwealth are the most important phases of our conservation problem."

The article on "Lakes and Streams" was undoubtedly written by T. H. Macbride. The report says: "Every bit of practical conservation accordingly implies use. When we advocate the conservation of a lake, therefore, we do not mean simply that we would have a body of water occupying so much area on the ground, but we urge that wherever such body of water of convenient size and depth occurs it shall be kept, and *kept in order*, and *used*. It shall be open to all the people for their use and benefit, for their enjoyment.

"The same thing is true when we speak of conservation as applied to streams. Our streams are for use. Conservation bids us use them and use them wisely; likewise our forests, these shall not simply stand as in the ages primeval, they must stand and be productive, be used.

"Each year our people are coming to appreciate more and more the value of our beautiful lakes, of which we have too few."

The Commission recommended that the lakes of Iowa be at the earliest moment placed under special jurisdiction. There is a strong note on the conservation of our woodlands by Dr. B. Shimek.

Forest conservation is one of the broadest questions within the whole field of conservation. Directly or indirectly it concerns all phases of the great problem. The clearing of the forest has caused the disappearance of springs. "The state should



control the rough lands along the streams of our state for the purpose of preventing the evil consequences of our present practice." The report suggests that these woodlands be made parks and game preserves.

Dr. T. H. Macbride, in two fascinating volumes entitled *On the Campus*, the first published in 1916, and the second in 1925, gives the addresses delivered at various times before university and college audiences, and such topics as "Plant Responses,"<sup>294</sup> "Primeval Iowa,"<sup>295</sup> "Public Parks,"<sup>296</sup> and "Commencement on the Prairie"<sup>297</sup> are discussed—also an interesting article on "Gitche Manitou" by Samuel Calvin.<sup>298</sup> These articles all have references to conservation.

#### IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

In this connection something should be said about the *Iowa Geological Survey*<sup>299</sup> in which there are often conservation notes. The *Survey* was under the direction of Samuel Calvin, and subsequently that of Dr. George L. Kay.

During the early organization Dr. Charles Reuben Keyes served as able assistant. During many years Dr. James H. Lees ably assisted as assistant state geologist and in the preparation of papers for the *Survey*. Many fine papers on the artesian wells, Sioux quartzite, Silurian and Devonian fossils, and coal and gypsum deposits, have been prepared by the directors and assistants.

From the standpoint of conservation the county reports are most important. Such reports as the "Underground Water Resources of Iowa" bear on the subject of conservation. This is largely the work of W. H. Norton. The paper by Dr. S. W. Beyer on "Peat" is interesting from the standpoint of conservation.

#### SOIL SURVEYS<sup>300</sup>

Many of the soil surveys were carried on under the direction of W. H. Stevenson, with P. E. Brown, L. W. Forman and

<sup>294</sup>*On the Campus*, by T. H. Macbride, 1916, p. 173.

<sup>295</sup>*Ibid.*, 1925, p. 11.

<sup>296</sup>*Ibid.*, 1925, p. 110.

<sup>297</sup>*Ibid.*, 1925, p. 276.

<sup>298</sup>*Ibid.*, 1925, p. 179.

<sup>299</sup>*Rept. Ia. Geol. Survey*, Vol. XXI, pp. 29-1181, 1910.

<sup>300</sup>*Soil Survey of Ia.*, Rep. No. 45. *Des Moines County Soils*, Rept. No. 45, pp. 1-72. 8 p and 1 map, 1927. A large number of other reports have been published.

others from the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station assisting, and surveys were also made by the Bureau of Soils of the United States Department of Agriculture. A large number of county soils surveys have been made, of such counties as Des Moines, Dubuque, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Grundy, Hamilton, etc. These reports are splendid and often touch upon conservation problems.

#### THE STATE BOARD OF CONSERVATION

A public record of the minutes of the Iowa State Board of Conservation will be found in the ANNALS OF IOWA. Said material was prepared by E. R. Harlan and D. C. Mott.<sup>301</sup>

An editorial by E. R. Harlan states no other line of public work in Iowa in the last four years has shown such marvelous results as that of the acquisition of state parks.<sup>302</sup>

Mr. Harlan in a splendid address made before the Rotarians in Hotel Fort Des Moines on July 24, 1919, gave a fine outline of the work of the State Board of Conservation in preserving of scenic, scientific and historic Iowa areas. This address was published in the ANNALS OF IOWA.<sup>303</sup> This interesting, significant statement is made: "In Iowa it is but a short spin from prairie lands to fairy lands. Even with moderate roads one can ride from Des Moines in an automobile through certain settlements which resemble parts of the heart of Europe, and others of aboriginal Iowa nature. You can see a natural bridge rivaling that of Virginia; caves of equal scientific interest with that of Kentucky; hills, valleys, plants, and fossils, the glaciers left untouched; grottoes in which ice forms while the sun wilts the corn; lakes rimmed with boulders men cannot move."

This paper contains a splendid discussion of several aspects of the state parks. You can retrace the Mormon trail. You can see where the first settlements in Iowa were made. And here is another significant statement:

"But you cannot go swimming, boating, fishing, camping, nor play ball unless in cities, without trespassing. You cannot see one of the marvels I have named except over private lands; you

<sup>301</sup>ANNALS OF IOWA, Vol. XII, pp. 382, 471, 548, 623; XIII, pp. 57, 144, 224, 387, 473, 516, 625; XIV, p. 67, 1920-23.

<sup>302</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XIII, pp. 140-44, 1921.

<sup>303</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 366-71, 1924.

encounter hundreds of signs, 'No Trespassing'; you examine nothing without consent."

Again quoting from this fine article:

"Appropriate provision will be made that the healthful may resort to the open air with safety, without contempt of fellow citizens, and with full self-respect. Areas unique for scenery will be acquired. Those embracing objects and materials useful or interesting in scientific study will be reserved. Grounds will be bought whereon occurred important scenes in early and recent social life; where prehistoric works exist; where lie the ashes of our great; where shafts that speak of all these facts should stand.

"The board believes the advantages are mutual between centers of population and the state at large and that there is, in justice, an implied ratio of cost based on resulting benefits of acquisition between these two."

In speaking of the wild life in the Keosauqua park Mr. Harlan refers to the coveys of bob whites and the old drumming pheasants or ruffed grouse and the fact that citizens voluntarily subscribed to make a wild life sanctuary out of lands adjacent to the state-owned land. The state park land was bought at a very nominal rate.

"The unique 'Keosauqua scheme' of helping the state purchase the tract was resorted to. Each interested individual subscribed the cost of an acre of the ground until the citizens had contributed \$6,400."

Then he refers to the fine gifts of citizens of Farmington in the purchase of the Farmington State Park.

The first meeting of the State Board of Conservation was held in the office of Treasurer of State E. R. Hoyt in Des Moines, on which occasion Mr. Hoyt, Gov. Harding, members of the Executive Council, and members of the Board appointed by the Executive Council, were present. At this initial meeting L. H. Pammel was elected chairman and E. R. Harlan secretary.

During the summer of 1918 before the Board was organized there was held a picnic in what is now Backbone State Park. This was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Byron W. Newberry, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Dunham, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Hoyt, Judge and



Mrs. Carr and others who were interested in sponsoring a movement for making a state park out of the Devil's Backbone. On this occasion the writer of this article made an address on parks.

Mr. Hoyt, who was treasurer of state at that time, was deeply interested in this park work and helped the movement greatly. To him the people of Iowa are especially indebted for his kindly interest in this work.

The early park policies of the state were clearly outlined in the address made by E. R. Harlan before the Rotary Club, referred to above.<sup>304</sup>

The State Board of Conservation had but few precedents in regard to state park policies. It is true that state parks had been established in Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota and a few other states, but the policies established in these states were only applicable in part to the state of Iowa.

Soon after the organization of the State Board of Conservation, the Board outlined certain general policies. One of these was to receive gifts from communities and citizens. In response to this policy the people of Farmington and Keosauqua made the first generous gifts. These gifts came largely from the suggestion of E. R. Harlan. The Keosauqua plan was worked out through several conferences that Mr. Harlan had with local citizens, and this plan was afterwards used in the purchase of land by private individuals in acquiring the Ledges State Park in Boone County. There were generous gifts from the people of Eldora and Hardin County in establishing Pine Creek Park, and also the gifts from the Lepley family to establish Lepley State Park, in honor of the pioneer families of Lепleys. Mention should be made of the gifts from people in Webster County in establishing the Dolliver Memorial Park and the gifts of citizens in establishing Bixby, Guthrie County Park, Fremont County Park, Clear Lake, Bellevue, Pilot Knob, Clear Lake, Wapsipicon, Palisades and others.

Another early policy established by the Board was to recognize the importance of wayside parks because there was no way in which people could sit down and have a picnic lunch in groves and woodlands because of "no trespassing" signs. It seemed,

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<sup>304</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XIV, p. 366, 1924.

therefore, important to the Board to recognize the establishment of wayside parks, and it was felt that in the course of time these would be scattered over the state.

The Board also recognized the importance of establishing historical parks, or establishing parks at historical spots. Certain parks, of which Fort Atkinson State Park may be mentioned, were established purely for historical reasons. Indeed such parks as the Lacey-Keosauqua and regions adjacent to it have many historical aspects, as much of the early history of the founding of our state took place in southeastern Iowa.

The Board also clearly recognized the importance of conservation in the establishment of state parks. It clearly recognized that not only should our plants but animals as well, and scenery, be preserved. This is well recognized in the creation of such large parks as the Lacey-Keosauqua, the Backbone Park in Delaware County, the Ledges in Boone County and the Dolliver Memorial in Webster County. It was felt that the state of Iowa could well afford to have a number of larger parks where the above points could be clearly recognized.

The Board also felt that areas typical of natural scenery and topography should be preserved. Therefore the Elbert State Park in Polk County was established where we have the interesting topography of the Coon River. The type of topography typical of the Des Moines River is preserved through such parks as the Dolliver Memorial, the Ledges and Lacey-Keosauqua, and the Iowa River topography by Pine Creek Park. It was felt, also, that such striking types of topography as are found in the Bixby Park, the Moorehead Caves and at Bellevue State Park, in Fremont County State Park, Guthrie Tract, and above all our lake parks would be representative of the topography, geology, and natural history of Iowa.

The Board, too, had in mind the establishment of prairie parks, and early secured legislation to set aside a tract of ground in Lyon County, known as the Gitchie Manitou Park, representing a type of topography and the Sioux quartzite, and typical prairie plants. Typical prairie plants and loess topography are represented in the Fremont County State Park. The Board had

hoped that some one would be generous enough to give to the state a large virgin strip or territory for a prairie park.

Many of the state parks have been dedicated. Of these mention may be made of Dolliver, Ledges, Backbone, Lacey-Keosauqua, Okamanpedan, Pine Creek, Merrick, Ambrose A. Call, Bellevue, Twin Lakes, and Eagle Lake State Park.

Quite early the Board recognized the importance of preserving for Iowa the meandered lakes and streams and so embodied in a bill drafted by Attorney General Gibson that all of the meandered lakes and streams should be created public parks. In this single act some seventy odd lakes were made a part of the state park system, as well as a number of meandered streams such as the Des Moines, Iowa, Nishnabotna, Wapsipicon, and Upper Iowa rivers. It thus secured a large number of parks. It recognized the difficulty in connection with the ownership of the old meander survey of the lakes, but there never has been any contention that parts of streams once covered with water, and parts of lakes also, are not a part of the public state property and parks, as clearly indicated by the vegetation on the banks of lakes and streams and supported by several decisions of the District and Supreme courts of Iowa, as well as of the United States.

#### LACEY-KEOSAUQUA PARK

An item on the naming of the Lacey-Keosauqua Park may be of interest. E. R. Harlan gives the reason for it being so named, because Major John F. Lacey did so much for conservation.<sup>305</sup>

In this connection attention may be called to a memorial volume on Major John F. Lacey<sup>306</sup> by the writer, published by the Iowa Park and Forestry Association. This volume of 454 pages published in 1915 was dedicated to Mrs. Martha Newell Lacey. It contains many of the addresses of Major Lacey on the subject of conservation, especially the part he had to do in connection with the federal protection of migratory birds, and also his addresses concerning conservation in general. To commemorate Major Lacey, Lacey conservation days were held for several seasons in the Lacey-Keosauqua Park.

<sup>305</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. XV, p. 466, 1926.

<sup>306</sup>*Rept. Ia. Park and Forestry Assoc.*, 1913,





One of the largest American elms in Ledges State Park, Boone County, nearly eight feet in diameter. Photographed by G. B. MacDonald.

## NATURE HIKES

State parks have been used for nature hikes from the very beginning. Thus, for instance, the Ledges have been used for nearly forty years, long before the state park was established, and after the establishment of state parks several nature hikes have been held each year by members of the scientific staff of Iowa State College, the State University, Grinnell, Cornell, Iowa Wesleyan and Coe College. During the past season nature hikes were carried out more methodically in the Ledges State Park than heretofore. Each Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock hikes were conducted by Carl Fitz Henning or myself. This year through the entire season counting the other hikes in addition to those on Sunday afternoon about twelve hikes were taken by myself. The afternoon nature hikes given under my direction were always preceded by a lecture on conservation, and much interest was manifested by the hearers.

Other nature hikes have been conducted in this park by T. C. Stephens of Morningside College, Sioux City, Prof. J. E. Guthrie, Department of Zoology at Ames, John Smith of the Geology Department at Ames, and W. M. Rosen. Geology hikes have also been made by Drs. Kay and Thomas of the geology department of the State University.

Nature hikes have been conducted in some of the other state parks by I. T. Bode and G. B. MacDonald. From the very beginning nature hikes were made in the Backbone Park in Delaware County. Several hikes were conducted during the session of the American School of Wild Life Protection.

Nature hikes were also conducted this year by the writer in the Dolliver Memorial Park, the Devil's Backbone Park in Madison County, the Pine Creek State Park, and several years ago in the Fremont County Park accompanied by LeRoy Titus Weeks, and in the Backbone Park in Delaware County accompanied by H. C. Overholser. Prof. B. Shimek has on several different occasions made nature hikes in different state parks, particularly in the Palisades State Park and the Jones County Park. Dr. H. S. Conard conducts nature hikes in Pine Creek State Park, Dr. S. W. Stookey in the Palisades and Jones County parks. Prof. H. E. Jaques conducts hikes in the Lacey-Keo-

sauqua and Oakland Mills State Park. In the Jones County Park a trail was laid out by Miss Lillian Pearl Heathershaw of Drake University. A discussion of Indian mounds with hiking parties has been made by E. R. Harlan in the Lacey-Keosauqua Park, and also by Dr. C. R. Keyes of Cornell College in the Palisades State Park.

Miss Heathershaw made some nature trails in Jones County Park in 1927. In making nature trails the problem of plant life must be thoroughly studied.

#### THE IOWA STATE PARK SYSTEM<sup>307</sup>

There is a background to every movement and so the movement for parks in Iowa had an interesting beginning. Away back in the fifties when Iowa was very young, one, Mr. T. S. Parvin, then register of lands, so Mr. Harlan discovered in looking through the Iowa Archives, advocated in one of his reports that the state of Iowa should buy a large tract of land in Des Moines to preserve the trees of the State House grounds because in time this woodland would be needed for recreational purposes. Certainly a prophetic vision.

In 1895 when I was a newcomer in Iowa, Dr. Thomas H. Macbride, then the professor of botany in the State University of Iowa, advocated county parks. He said, "County parks would tend to preserve to those who come after us, something of the primitive beauty of this part of the world, as such beauty stood revealed in its original flora. I esteem this from the standpoint of science, and indeed, from the standpoint of intellectual progress, a matter of extreme importance. Who can estimate the intellectual stimulus the world receives by the efforts made to appreciate and understand the varied wealth of nature's living forms."

Later there was organized the Iowa Park and Forestry Association at Ames, in 1901, for the very purpose of stimulating our interest in parks. Later the daughter of the association, The Iowa Conservation Association, with increasing momentum, did most active work in creating an interest in the matter of state parks. To the work of this association there should be added the great help of the Iowa Women's Federation in securing the necessary legislation for state parks.

Let us for a few minutes contemplate the pioneer of Iowa. I am reminded of the hardships of the pioneer as portrayed in a fine volume by Mrs. Florence Cowles, "Early Algona." I am always grateful to these pioneers for laying the foundations of a great commonwealth. These pioneers had their pleasures in the "great out-of-doors" and it made of these men and women a sturdy folk. "Those who have spent their lives in cities and have depended on sources outside themselves for their amusements and recreations may feel a sentimental throb of

<sup>307</sup>Radio address by L. H. Pammel, July 26, 1929, over WOI.

pity for this little group of settlers, miles from the bright lights and padded luxuries of civilization, but sympathy was the last thing asked for by these rugged nature-loving, adventurous pioneer men and women. Obstacles overcome gave flavor to their lives."

The first legislation looking towards the conservation of our lakes was when Senator Daniel Cady Chase of Webster City secured the passage of a law directing the State Highway Commission to make a survey of the lakes of Iowa. The commission made some very constructive suggestions. This report had the commendation of all friends interested in state parks. "A committee of the Iowa Conservation Association, the curator of the State Historical Department, assistant state geologist, the highway engineer and several prominent members of the House and Senate, among these Senator Byron W. Newberry and Senator B. J. Horchem (succeeding session of legislature, Senator Foskett, and Speaker of the House McFarlane) met with the chairman of the Senate Committee on Fish and Game, Senator Perry C. Holdoegel. He was selected to draft a bill to be presented to the Senate and House creating a system of state parks. The bill was duly presented and the Thirty-seventh General Assembly passed a conservation law. This law gave to the State Board of Conservation, the Fish and Game Department and the Executive Council the right to create state parks from fees received by the Fish and Game Department from the sale of hunters' licenses. The Thirty-eighth General Assembly amended this law by eliminating the support derived from the Fish and Game Department, making a direct appropriation of \$100,000 annually. The Executive Council at its discretion, however, was empowered to use funds for park purposes from the fish and game protection fund. It also gave the Board of Conservation charge of the lakes. Subsequently funds for highway construction in the parks were provided. The Thirty-ninth General Assembly made the State Board of Conservation custodian for park purposes of all of the meandered streams and lakes of Iowa, making it further possible for counties and individuals to advance the payment for park purposes, provided said lands are properly approved by the Board and Executive Council. It also created the Gitchie Manito Park in Lyon County. The law for the creation of state parks made the creation a joint action of the State Board of Conservation and the Executive Council. The Executive Council at first appointed the board, except the curator of the State Historical Department, who was the ex-officio member. The first board, appointed during Governor Harding's administration, consisted of Joseph Kelso of Bellevue, J. F. Ford of Fort Dodge and L. H. Pammel of Ames. This board was organized on December 27, 1918, by electing L. H. Pammel president, and E. R. Harlan secretary. Senator W. G. Haskell of Cedar Rapids and Mrs. C. H. McNider of Mason City later succeeded Messrs. Kelso and Ford. This Board elected the same officers as the previous Board. Other persons who have served or are serving on the State Board of



Conservation are Mrs. E. F. Armstrong, former Senator Byron W. Newberry, Mrs. Henry Frankel, Mrs. R. H. Volland, W. E. G. Saunders and J. G. Wyth. C. S. Niles served as chairman for a time. The present chairman is W. E. G. Saunders. E. R. Harlan and W. C. Merckens served as secretaries of the Board, and D. C. Mott and Sidney Bemis as assistant secretaries. The Board members now are appointed by the governor. The members of the Executive Council who have helped or are helping to administer the State Parks are as follows: Governors Harding, Kendall and Hammill, E. H. Hoyt, F. S. Shaw, W. C. Ramsay, W. J. Burbank, Ed M. Smith, Ray E. Johnson, J. W. Long, Mark Thornburg, J. C. McClune, and G. C. Haynes. This is a brief story of the law and how the Board and the Executive Council co-operate.

Why do we create parks? With most people they are for amusement, some want a dance pavilion, a merry-go-round, etc. Parks are for recreation. If the ordinary form of amusement is desired the public state park is not the place to get it. It may be a necessity in the city, but certainly not in the country park. There is more than recreation in a park, and the Iowa law seems to have met this issue squarely when the words, "historical, scientific and scenic" were used. The persons who framed the law had in mind the preservation of animals, rare plants, unique trees, some unique geological formations, the preservation of the Indian mounds, rare old buildings where Iowa history was made. These parks serve an important function for students in high schools and colleges who are invited to make use of the same, and are especially valuable for boy scouts, campfire girls and similar organizations. The framers of this law wished to show generations yet unborn what Iowa had in the way of prairie, valley, lake and river. It was felt that a part of this heritage left to us was not only for the present generation, but that its citizens of the future had a just claim on this heritage. God surely blessed Iowa with the most fertile soil on the face of the globe and he planted here the finest type of citizens who will leave their impression on the nation, so let us do our part to make them happy so long as they are a part of our state.

During the early period of the existence of the Board a survey was made of some of the areas suitable for state park purposes. This was published as a volume, *Iowa Parks*. There have also been issued park booklets descriptive of some of the parks, and park bulletin brochures.

The sentiment for state parks in Iowa is splendid. Many notable gifts have been made to the state by communities and citizens.

The members of the Board serve without pay and a wonderfully fine lot of work has been done and surely this is deserving of recognition by the people of Iowa.

As stated before, the Board was created during the administration of Governor Harding. He was very much interested as well as the subsequent governors, N. E. Kendall and John Hammill.

All actions of the Board must be approved by the Executive Council,

and the Executive Council has also shown unusual interest in state parks and they share the responsibility, and therefore due credit should be given to them.

Again let me say that the State Board of Conservation was directed to acquire areas having one or more of three distinct qualities: historical, scientific, or scenic. These three fundamental things should always be borne in mind in connection with state parks. It is certainly absolutely important that this generation should pass on to the next some of the fine things we have inherited. This generation has no right to destroy that which was given to us, and therefore it seems to me that the scientific aspects are important. The Board, through its wise policies, has done a wonderful amount of good in furthering this side of conservation. When I recall the fact that in the Ledges State Park there are several large clumps of the large pink lady slipper which have been seen by thousands of people and yet not a single flower was picked, it proves to me that the Board has done a wonderful piece of constructive work along the lines of conservation. The people are beginning to appreciate the importance of conservation of our plant and animal life.

The state of Iowa has a number of outstanding parks. I do not have sufficient time to enter into detail concerning them. It would require several hours to describe every one of these parks separately. But I want to strike this keynote: that in our state parks we have some of the most unique areas in the United States. Let me refer to a few. The Ledges State Park, situated in central Iowa, is unique in not only the formation of rocks, the animal life, but for the rare species of plants. I refer to the island distribution of the reindeer lichen and the pale vetch, plants that are at home hundreds of miles from here.

One of the other interesting parks of almost the same type of topography is the Dolliver Memorial Park. It has fine streams, springs and flowers. It is a most picturesque park.

Another outstanding park in this respect is the Pine Creek State Park near Eldora. A wonderful park it is, and in some respects, contains some of the most unique forms of plant life in the state and in the United States. Unfortunately a part of this is not in the park. I refer to the Falling Rock area. But please remember that the white pine, paper birch and wintergreen birch have found the limit of their southwest distribution in the United States at this point. Therefore this is a most remarkable spot and I hope that the public at large will ever bear in mind the importance of conservation in this park. The lake is valuable and interesting from the recreational standpoint, but we must never forget that these rare native plants have found here a last haven of rest in the United States.

Another interesting park is the Ambrose A. Call State Park near Algona which was dedicated in July, 1929. This park is interesting from a historical standpoint. Mrs. Cowles has told us much of the history of



Pine Creek State Park near Eldora.



Near Pilot Knob State Park. Bluffs covered with northern pin oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*), bass wood (*Tilia americana*), burr oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) and slippery elm (*Ulmus fulva*).

this region and particularly where A. A. Call settled and she has done it in a very delightful way.

Pilot Knob Park in Hancock County is worthy of mention here. This tract is valuable for several reasons. The plant life is not unlike that found in several other sections in northern Iowa. But here we have a typical island flora. It covers most of the tract except at the summit where we have a little open prairie. But remember that this is the highest point in direct line between the Ozarks and the source of the Mississippi. It is 1,500 feet above sea level and situated on one of the great glacial moraines of the country. The lake, generally known as Dead Man's Lake, is interesting. It contains fine water lilies and other aquatic plants. Ocheyedun Mound, much further west, is 1,670 feet high.

Another unique park is the Lacey-Keosauqua in southeastern Iowa. It contains more native species of oak than any other park or single area in Iowa. It is one of the larger of the state parks. The plant life here is to some extent southern, and the southern types of plants are more common than in the other areas which I have mentioned.

Another most interesting park is the Backbone Park in Delaware County. Here again we have an island expression. The white pine found on a ledge above the Maquoketa are interesting old trees that should remind one of the days when the Indians camped under their shadows. Here we also have other interesting plants, especially ferns.

Another interesting park is the Devil's Backbone Park in Madison County. Here again a narrow ledge, with a typical prairie flora is found, with some interesting trees, like the corky bark elm and in a fine oak grove close to the river, the quercitron oak, or black oak.

The Muscatine park, called Wildcat Den, is unique. This is interesting not only because of the most southern extension of the white pine west of the Mississippi River, which occur upon the sandstone ledges; some rare, interesting southern ferns have also found here a refuge. We owe it to the Brandt sisters who so generously donated part of this park.

Another interesting park is Bixby Park in Clayton County. The Bellevue Park in Jackson County is a fine park upon a high bluff where one gets a wonderful view of the Mississippi River. This park combines especially the historical, scientific and recreational. Another park is Wapsipinicon near Anamosa with the rugged bluffs skirting the river and fine timbered tracts.

The Palisades, Linn County, is another beautiful park with palisade limestone rocks which form a gorge through which the Cedar River flows where are many white oak trees and many beautiful flowers.

The Guthrie County Park is also combined with the historical, scientific and recreational. It was through this park that the old road or trail to Council Bluffs goes which was used by the early pioneers.

Another interesting park is the Maquoketa Caves, with its natural



bridge. It is interesting because this fine natural bridge is just a little bit away from a fine prairie country.

Other interesting parks are the Flint Hills, near Burlington, which again combines the historical because it was here that the Indians secured their material for arrow heads. Oak Grove Park on the Big Sioux River is interesting not only from the standpoint of native wild flowers but the outlying tree growth, particularly the burr oak.

Fremont County Park is interesting from the standpoint of the historical associations. One gets a fine view of the valley from the bluffs of the Missouri loess. Redbud papaw and other interesting trees occur in this park.

The Lewis and Clark Park represents an entirely different type of park. Again the historical associations occur. On this lake Lewis and Clark landed on their memorable expedition up the Missouri. There are fine sand dunes and fine native trees and shrubs.

Attention may be called to the Fort Atkinson State Park. It was here in 1840 that the United States government erected a fort. Part of the original buildings are still standing. This park is located in Winneshek County.

The lakes are important in connection with our recreation and conservation of water. Of these interesting lake parks attention may be called to the Lost Island Lake Park, Twin Lakes State Park, Clear Lake State Park, Eagle Lake State Park and Rice Lake State Park. It is the duty of the state to give the people this contact with the water where they can relax.

One of the very interesting unique parks in southern Iowa is the Farmington State Park which is the gift of the Farmington people. It has a wonderful American lotus bed.

The Elbert tract in Polk County represents a type of our streams that is wonderful. There are wonderful black walnut and sycamore trees and elm trees here.

A small and rather remarkable tract in the state is the Gitchie Manito Park in Lyon County. This was an important point for the Indians when they traveled northward from Iowa. The rocks consist of Sioux quartzite. In the middle of this is a pool of water. This is the only park in the state where buffalo grass occurs—also several other rare western plants.

Okamanpedan State Park is interesting from a historical standpoint because the name was recorded as used by the Indians, by an early French explorer, Nicollet.

There are many other areas which should be made into state parks—outstanding areas from a scientific standpoint. We trust that the legislature will be generous enough to provide in the near future sufficient funds so that such areas can be made into state parks. As one who is interested in science, and interested in the welfare of Iowa, I earnestly hope and pray that the state will do its part in the creation

and maintenance of state parks, because I believe that the state's future greatness will depend somewhat upon the amount of recreation and enjoyment we are going to give to the people. We must have a happy and contented people and we can aid in this by a park service.

#### PARKS AND PROPOSED PARK SURVEYS

Surveys of areas suitable for park purposes from scientific, recreational and historical features were made, and before an area was accepted for park purposes a scientific and recreational survey was made and presented to the Board. A report on such areas as Lake Manawa, Decorah cave, and Balsam firs growing on the Yellow and Oneota rivers.

The Pine Creek Hollow areas and many others were studied in detail. And finally, when the chairman retired, a two-volume manuscript exhaustive report was made. The synopsis of this was printed in the Park Bulletin, handsomely printed, describing the parks.

The volume, *Iowa Parks*, contained papers on Iowa lakes and lake areas by Lewis E. Ashbaugh, Leslie E. Francis, E. C. Hinshaw, Thomas H. Macbride, and L. H. Pammel. Articles on state parks and reserves were written by Frank H. Culley, C. F. Curtiss, Frederick J. Lazell, T. H. Macbride, G. B. MacDonald, G. C. Morbeck, L. H. Pammel, G. Perle Wilson Schmidt, and Zellah M. Schermerhorn. Papers on wild plants and bird life were written by B. H. Bailey, George Bennett, Mrs. E. A. Burgess, Charles F. Clarke, Henry S. Conard, R. I. Cratty, Harriette S. Kellogg, T. C. Stephens, J. A. Spurrell, and H. J. Taylor. Papers on conservation and parks were submitted by M. F. Arey, E. D. Ball, Frank H. Culley, C. F. Curtiss, Wesley Greene, Ada Hayden, B. J. Horehem, James H. Lees, Thomas H. Macbride, Mrs. Mary H. McNider, Ellison Orr, L. H. Pammel, R. J. Pearse, Elmer Reeves, B. Shimek, and T. R. Truax.

This volume of 328 pages is handsomely illustrated with pictures typical of Iowa scenery and wild life and is the most comprehensive report ever issued on some of the parks and proposed parks in the state. This was edited by E. R. Harlan, D. C. Mott, Alice Marple, and L. H. Pammel.

In the matter of making a continuation of the reports of the State Board of Conservation park bulletins in four volumes on

Iowa state parks were issued beginning in 1923 and continuing to June, 1927. These volumes contain a partial record of the actions of the State Board of Conservation and a final report of the chairman of the board, L. H. Pammel.<sup>308</sup> These publications contain many other interesting articles. Among them are the following:

"Touring Iowa with the Geologists," by James H. Lees;<sup>309</sup> report of the American School of Wild Life Protection;<sup>310</sup> "Early Conservation," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>311</sup> report of the state-wide picnic at the Backbone Park, with addresses by C. H. True, Byron W. Newberry, L. H. Pammel, Governor John Hammill, W. E. Albert, and Clem F. Kimball;<sup>312</sup> dedication of the Pine Creek State Park with addresses by Albert R. Rice, W. H. Soper, L. H. Pammel, and L. V. Carter;<sup>313</sup> report of the sixth annual conference on state parks;<sup>314</sup> report of the second Lacey conservation day;<sup>315</sup> dedication of the Okamanpedan state park and marker;<sup>316</sup> addresses by Mrs. W. G. Gordon, Mrs. E. F. Armstrong and L. H. Pammel;<sup>317</sup> list of Iowa state parks and the state park law;<sup>318</sup> account of the Mississippi Valley Conference on the Value of Aquatic Resources, with accounts of Tuttle Lake, Lacey-Keosauqua, Backbone parks and an account of the white pine;<sup>319</sup> article on the burr oak;<sup>320</sup> "Some Birds that you may meet in the Ledges State Park," by Carl F. Henning;<sup>321</sup> "The Ledges State Park," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>322</sup> an article on our state parks by Mrs. Francis E. Whitley;<sup>323</sup> "Preservation of Water Areas Vital to Wild Life," by C. Avery;<sup>324</sup> article on the "Depletion of Aquatic Resources, the Cause and Remedial Measures," by C. F. Culler;<sup>325</sup> article on the "Passing of Outdoor

<sup>308</sup>*Bul. Ia. State Parks*, Vol. IV, Nos. 5 and 6, pp. 129-46.

<sup>309</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 148.

<sup>310</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 153.

<sup>311</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 113.

<sup>312</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, No. 65.

<sup>313</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 83.

<sup>314</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 54.

<sup>315</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 12.

<sup>316</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 1.

<sup>317</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 1.

<sup>318</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 1.

<sup>319</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 2.

<sup>320</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 3, p. 13.

<sup>321</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 3, p. 11.

<sup>322</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 3, p. 10.

<sup>323</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 15.

<sup>324</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 12.

<sup>325</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 9.

America," by Mrs. E. F. Armstrong;<sup>326</sup> article on "Trails," by H. E. Pammel,<sup>327</sup> showing the necessity of properly constructed trails through parks and the value of the same from the standpoint of a thorough appreciation of the park; article by John R. Fitzsimmons on the "Conservation School at Ames;"<sup>328</sup> article on "Forests and Forestry," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>329</sup> minutes and notes on the National Conference of Outdoor Recreation;<sup>330</sup> "May Days at the Upper Palisades of the Cedar," by Gertrude M. Cole;<sup>331</sup> "Some Spring Days in our Iowa State Parks," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>332</sup> "A Discussion of a Place for Plants on the Right-of-ways of Railroads," by G. B. MacDonald;<sup>333</sup> "The Prairie,"<sup>334</sup> and "Parks and Parks," by T. H. Macbride;<sup>335</sup> dedication of the Ledges State Park with addresses, by M. V. Higbee, L. H. Pammel, and W. C. Ramsay;<sup>336</sup> dedication of Pilot Knob State Park with addresses by L. H. Pammel, Byron W. Newberry, W. E. G. Saunders and a poem by Eugene Secor;<sup>337</sup> dedication of the Clinton Merrick Park with addresses by L. H. Pammel, W. C. Merckens, and L. R. Hall;<sup>338</sup> "Recreational Survey of the Lacey-Keosauqua Park," by H. E. Pammel;<sup>339</sup> "Prairie Parks," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>340</sup> dedication of the Dolliver Memorial Park with addresses by L. H. Pammel, J. B. Weaver, J. C. McClune, W. H. Welch, J. J. Share, and John Ford, M. E. Olsen presiding; unveiling memorial by Miss Frances Pearson Dolliver;<sup>341</sup> "Study and Selection of Sites for State Parks," by James I. Greenleaf;<sup>342</sup> list of Iowa State Parks—thirty-eight in number;<sup>343</sup> Raymond Torrey on the "State Parks of Iowa;"<sup>344</sup> Lacey conservation day at Keosauqua<sup>345</sup> (this was the first Lacey conservation day held); conservation program at the

<sup>326</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 6.

<sup>327</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, No. 6.

<sup>328</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 9.

<sup>329</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 1.

<sup>330</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 86.

<sup>331</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 24.

<sup>332</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 19.

<sup>333</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 16.

<sup>334</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, No. 5, p. 15.

<sup>335</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, No. 5, p. 13.

<sup>336</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, No. 5, p. 14.

<sup>337</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, No. 5, p. 4.

<sup>338</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, No. 5, p. 3.

<sup>339</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 6.

<sup>340</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 9.

<sup>341</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, No. 1, p. 1.

<sup>342</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 25.

<sup>343</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 64.

<sup>344</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 44.

<sup>345</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 41.



State University;<sup>346</sup> report on the state park for Burlington, by L. H. Pammel;<sup>347</sup> state park addresses by L. H. Pammel at the School of Wild Life Protection, August 8-20, 1925;<sup>348</sup> "National Wild Life Refuge, Established on the Upper Mississippi," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>349</sup> "Conservation in the State Parks," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>350</sup> address delivered to the annual conference of the Isaac Walton League, at Ames;<sup>351</sup> "The Indian as a Conservationist," by L. H. Pammel, being an account of a statement made by M. R. Gilmore on the Indian and conservation;<sup>352</sup> an address on "Memorial Parks," by C. H. Diggs;<sup>353</sup> a detailed report of the Ledges State Park by J. R. Fitzsimmons;<sup>354</sup> "Our Lakes and State Parks," by L. H. Pammel, with many notes on state parks;<sup>355</sup> detailed report on Pilot Knob State Park by John R. Fitzsimmons, accompanied by a map;<sup>356</sup> a discussion of the season of 1925 by L. H. Pammel;<sup>357</sup> a discussion of the State Board of Conservation becoming custodian of unusual trees;<sup>358</sup> an interesting article on "The Economic Value of Birds from an Agricultural Standpoint," by John L. Cole;<sup>359</sup> American School of Wild Life Protection;<sup>360</sup> "The Need of Forestry Vital," by A. J. Secor;<sup>361</sup> "An Account of Dvorak," by Mrs. Louis B. Schmidt;<sup>362</sup> "Iowa Conservation Association," by C. H. Diggs;<sup>363</sup> "Some Notable Boulders and Ice Caves," by L. H. Pammel;<sup>364</sup> and a discussion of certain areas not acquired but very choice. These areas are Pine Hollow in Dubuque County, McGregor, Juniper area in Floyd County, Red Rock, and Cedar Bluff on the Des Moines River, the Middle Coon in Guthrie County, Fayette, and West Union.<sup>365</sup>

<sup>346</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 43.

<sup>347</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 37.

<sup>348</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 33.

<sup>349</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 91.

<sup>350</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 88.

<sup>351</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 83.

<sup>352</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 71.

<sup>353</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 65.

<sup>354</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, No. 4.

<sup>355</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 117.

<sup>356</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 170.

<sup>357</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 166.

<sup>358</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 168.

<sup>359</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 152.

<sup>360</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 148.

<sup>361</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 146.

<sup>362</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 147.

<sup>363</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 145.

<sup>364</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 144.

<sup>365</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 139.

Many of the numbers contained notes on parks which will be of use to students in connection with park work.

The State Board of Conservation also issued four park booklets as follows: No. 1—*Ledges State Park*; No. 2—*Dolliver Memorial State Park*; No. 3—*Eldora Pine Creek State Park*; No. 4—*Pilot Knob State Park*. The Pilot Knob booklet also includes Merrick, Eagle Lake, Rice Lake and Crystal, East and West Twin and Duck lakes. In these are accounts of the early history of the region, the plant and animal life, the geology and other matters of local interest in connection with park work. The contributors to the Pilot Knob State Park booklet are L. H. Pammel, Eugene Secor, and the geology by James H. Lees. Dead Man's Lake has an old Indian story behind it, by W. R. Pruitt. The contributors to the Eldora, Pine Creek State Park booklet are L. H. Pammel, and Charles L. Hays on the Iowa valley history. The Dolliver Memorial contributors are James H. Lees, Sarah Hoke, C. M. King, L. H. Pammel, Carl F. Henning, B. Shimek and Ada Hayden. The contributors to the Ledges Park booklet are John E. Smith, J. E. Guthrie and L. H. Pammel. This is the second edition, and is dedicated to Carl F. Henning. These park booklets are all handsomely illustrated.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STATE PARKS, THE OUTGROWTH  
OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE IOWA STATE BOARD  
OF CONSERVATION

Stephen T. Mather, who was director of the National Park Service, was so impressed with the progress made by the Iowa State Board of Conservation that in conference with E. R. Harlan and L. H. Pammel he asked that a national conference on state parks be held in Des Moines, Iowa, January 9 to 12, 1921. A large part of the work in connection with this conference was carried out under the direct efforts of E. R. Harlan and O. Van Wyk, Jr.

The conference was called to order by E. R. Harlan.

George Bennett in speaking of this conference stated, "The conference was called to order by Mr. E. R. Harlan, the genial and versatile secretary of the Iowa State Board of Conservation, who was the mentor and guide for the assembly for three full prolific days."

Governor W. L. Harding stated that it afforded him very great pleasure to be accorded the privilege and honor of having some little part in assembling on that occasion the body of men and women before him.

Stephen T. Mather in an address stated,<sup>366</sup> "It is certainly a pleasure to be here in Iowa, a state that has made such a splendid start in the state park development. Coming as I do from the national capital, I bring you the greetings of the secretary of the interior, Hon. John Barton Payne, who, as you know, has supreme jurisdiction over the national park system, is my chief, and it was he who suggested that this conference be held in this state. While I have long been interested in park work in cities and during the last six years in national park improvement, it was not until two years ago that I came to fully realize the great importance of state parks, and that realization has caused me to give much attention to the state problem in various sections of the United States.

"The Iowa state parks have already been described to you by Dr. Pammel and I cannot add more. Suffice it to say that the Iowa state park survey has won the admiration of the country and that the work of the Board of Conservation of which Dr. Pammel is chairman, and E. R. Harlan secretary, offers an example to all non-partisan boards who want to accomplish real things."

Barton Payne was elected chairman, Stephen T. Mather, vice chairman, and Beatrice M. Ward, secretary of the conference.<sup>367</sup>

A complete account of the convention was given by the Rev. George Bennett.<sup>368</sup>

Delegates attended this conference from California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Washington, D. C., Wisconsin and Wyoming.<sup>369</sup>

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<sup>366</sup>*Ia. Conservationist*, Vol. 5, p. 10.

<sup>367</sup>*Ia. Park Bul.*, Vol. I, No. 1, p. 5.

<sup>368</sup>*Ia. Conservationist*, Vol. V, p. 14.

<sup>369</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. V, p. 15.

## T. P. CHRISTENSEN'S PAPER ON STATE PARKS

The subject of state parks and to a limited extent, conservation, was reviewed by Dr. T. P. Christensen<sup>370</sup> quite recently. There is an adequate presentation, although the facts pertained only to the different state parks created up to the time that the paper was written. The papers contains reviews of matters pertaining to state parks and conservation. There is also a review of the earlier work on the subject in the state and this definition of conservation taken from Taylor's "Conservation of Life through City Parks" in *Transactions Iowa Horticultural Society*, 1918.

"The term 'conservation' as used today is of recent origin. It was scarcely known before 1907. But it has since become a national slogan, the symbol of a great and growing national movement for the conservation of not only forests and scenery but also water power, all forms of wild life, and human life as well." He traces the matter of conservation back through the Colonial period when New Hampshire passed legislation to protect her forests and when William Penn decreed the setting aside of wood lots. The national policy of conservation began in 1817 when Congress authorized the secretary of the navy to reserve certain lands producing live oak and red cedar for the purpose of supplying the navy. Then he discusses the timberland act of the government and the forestry act of 1891.

The real beginning of the creation of state and national parks was started then, although the Yellowstone and Hot Springs, Arkansas, national parks were started long before that—the former in 1872 and the latter in 1832. Dr. Christensen refers to the work of Major John F. Lacey and President Roosevelt, and the book of John Muir published in 1901, *Our National Parks*. And it also mentions the work of Gifford Pinchot in 1910, *The Fight for Conservation*. Altogether this is a most valuable paper.

T. P. Christensen, in his paper, made use of much of the material published in the Iowa park bulletins, including the dedication exercises. The Christensen paper also contains many other historical references. For instance, under the head of

<sup>370</sup>*Ia. Jour. of Hist. and Politics*, Iowa City, Vol. XXVI, pp. 33, 414, 1928,



"Lakes" reference is made to the surveyor Nicollet and other historic figures and facts. The same applies to historical material in connection with such parks as the Lepley State Park, in which mention is made of the story of the Lepleys, and in Pilot Knob State Park there is an account by Prewitt, who gave an account of the legend connected with Dead Man's Lake in that park.

#### AMERICAN SCHOOL OF WILD LIFE PROTECTION<sup>371</sup>

I am to speak to you this afternoon on the subject of The American School of Wild Life Protection. There is always something interesting back of every movement.

The real beginning of the movement for the establishment of a School for Wild Life Protection was in December, 1901, when the Iowa Park and Forestry Association was organized with Thomas H. Macbride as president, and L. H. Pammel as secretary. Prominent other members at this meeting were A. T. Erwin, J. L. Budd and Cyrus Mosier.

This society later was merged into the Iowa Conservation Association. Among the earlier workers were G. B. MacDonald, H. S. Conard, Fred J. Lazell, Ervin E. Reed, Mr. and Mrs. A. Chapin and Misses Chapin. These people have taken a very prominent part in the association.

The people of McGregor and vicinity have long been interested in conservation, and the building up of an organization which would attract people to this vicinity. The Reverend George Bennett, field representative of the Iowa Conservation Association in 1918, wrote as follows: "Notwithstanding the jewel possessed by the state of Iowa in its northeastern section, in the form of entrancing scenery and the setting of still entrancing scenery, it would seem that few of our dwellers in the state are aware of it. And if the residents of Iowa herself are unknowing and unaware, where may the rest of the country be expected to come in? It was therefore both wisdom and policy that on a recent date, an exploring party should set out to investigate an area of which inviting and pleasing reports had come, and it is with the movements of this distinctive party that this recital has to do. It is a story founded on data demonstrating that those in the quest were delighted with every phase and experience of their enquiry and search, while, on the part of those who acted as hosts to the visitors, there is de facto evidence that the former found their guests so responsive and loyal to their new environment, it made the work of entertaining one appealing and continued pleasure.

"The explorers to whom allusion has been made, embraced a company known as the Iowa Conservation Association. A prominent worker in

<sup>371</sup>Radio address by L. H. Pammel, July 5, 1929.

its ranks, and a veteran of its order, Dr. L. H. Pammel of Ames, had made a preliminary visit to the section, and in his capacity as acting secretary formulated plans with the residents of McGregor, North McGregor and district, relative to what it was desired to accomplish. And the maturing of the dates which had been selected, resulted in the bringing off of a program of very definite interest and enjoyment. Various circumstances intervened to modify the details of this, but such did not affect the movement and spirit characterizing the hours of genuine pleasure making up the record days."

At this meeting of the Conservation Association there were President Euclid Saunders of Iowa City, Mrs. C. H. McNider of Mason



*Ulmus americana* and native hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) in a bog in Story County.

City, Mrs. Francis E. Whitley, state chairman of the Fourth District Woman's Committee of the National Council of Defense, Dr. George F. Kay, state geologist, and some of the leading citizens of McGregor interested in the project. M. X. Geske, W. H. C. Elwell, Mrs. Barry Gilbert, F. G. Bell, Miss Althea R. Sherman, Dr. C. Seashore, E. R. Harlan, Mr. Daubenburger, Carl D. Bickel, and Miss Frances Clark, were among those present at the meeting. This probably was the beginning of the sentiment to start this conservation school.

A second interesting meeting was held beginning July 27, 1929, of the Conservation Association, at which addresses were made by Dr. George F. Kay, Father Horsefield, Willis F. Bickel, Rev. A. E. Cutler, Dr. B. Shimek, Miss Florence Chapin, S. W. Beyer, J. H. Lees, T. C. Stephens, R. T. St. John, L. D. Dennis, John Boyle, J. M. Berry, Miss Florence L. Clark, E. R. Harlan, W. E. Albert, I. T. Bode, and L. H. Pammel.

Visitors on the program from outside of Iowa were: Dr. A. R. Whitson and W. E. Barber, both of Madison, Wisconsin; H. C. Cowles, Chicago; and Jens Jensen, Ravinia, Illinois.

Senator Byron W. Newberry also was there. He came on my invitation because he had become very much interested in conservation.

Such subjects as the following were presented during the week:

Geology—Dr. George F. Kay, State Geologist.

Botany—Dr. L. H. Pammel, Iowa State College.

Dendrology—Dr. B. Shimek, Iowa State University.

Ornithology—Dr. T. C. Stephens, Morningside College.

Iowa Indian Lore—Prof. Charles R. Keyes, Cornell College.

Rev. George Bennett said: "The recent gathering of the allied conservation forces of the state at McGregor was the natural outcome of the two summer sessions that had preceded it, and such a coming together at a period of the year when discussion of themes of educational moment and matters of business import can be so wisely and agreeably co-ordinated, certainly calls for the establishment of the summer assembly as a fixed and permanent place in the minds of our friends, and from year to year may be expected to demonstrate both in numbers and interest an ever extending ratio of increase."

This, then, is the beginning of the idea of the Wild Life School. The statement was made in the July and September, 1919, No. 3, *Iowa Conservation Magazine*: "This initial school was assembled through the enterprise of the McGregor Heights Outing Association and five well known professors from the college halls of Iowa, who heartily responded to the invitation of the association where the principals on either side shouldered the impact, while the students reaped a harvest of acquired knowledge in the fruitful fields about them, without trouble of discussion of grades secured in the past or deposit of matriculation or tuition fees."

Mr. Bennett stated in a paper in the *Iowa Conservation Magazine*, Volume IV, No. 3, page 71: "In the month of July, 1918, the Iowa Conservation Association held its second summer convention at McGregor, the three days' experience being replete with inspiration and interest. The following July witnessed the repetition of the Association's summer program at McGregor, the experience of the previous year having indicated that this was the logical course to pursue. The carrying out of the second year's program set forth the fact that the convention movement had been considerably enlarged and strengthened, and among other things, a feature introduced bearing the designation, 'The School of Wild Life Protection and Propagation.' The concluding half of the five days' session was devoted to this, the results being most satisfactory and gratifying."

One of the important events was the meeting of those interested in the aquatic resources of the Mississippi Valley, which was attended by Governor Harding, and representatives from Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. Among the Illinois representatives was Dr. S. A. Forbes. Minnesota was represented by the fish and game warden. This conference had much to do in starting the legislation concerning the Upper Wild Life Refuge. This conference was called at the suggestion of L. H. Pammel of Ames.

The man who had much to do with the School of Wild Life Protection was the Reverend George Bennett, Congregational clergyman, who lived at Iowa City. As stated before, the school was organized by Mr. Bennett in 1918. The original faculty consisted of Dr. George F. Kay, L. H. Pammel, Dr. B. Shimek, Dr. Leroy Titus Weeks, George Bennett, and Dr. Harry C. Oberholser.

Reverend Bennett was born in Cornwall, England, and died at the age of seventy-six, August 16, 1928, during the session of the school. The writer made this statement in a sketch of Mr. Bennett's life: "We of the American School of Wild Life Protection will miss the earnestness of the man, his devotion to duty. I know on the morning of his death we missed the familiar school bell which he invariably rang before the opening of the morning and evening sessions. Everyone admired the unselfish devotion of the man and his simplicity and straightforwardness. The last act of his earthly career was closed by presiding at the evening session of the American School of Wild Life Protection, August 15, 1928."

The faculty, the citizens of McGregor and the students of the school loved the man for his sincerity, and many expressions have been published in the daily press written by Miss Florence L. Clark and others. The *North Iowa Times* pays this fine tribute to him: "Dr. Bennett was loved in McGregor for the things he had done for McGregor. His vision brought about the establishment of a school to study wild life, the outdoors. His energy kept the school a live force. His interest in this section of the state had much to do with it being given govern-



ment recognition in the form of an act making it a national fish and game preserve."

Dr. W. T. Hornaday, the well known sponsor of game protection in this country, paid this fine tribute to the school: "I salute you and your collegiate colleagues on having started the first school of wild life protection and propagation ever started anywhere on this round earth, so far as I am aware. I wish for the founders of this school all the success and permanent satisfaction that your enterprise so fully deserves. I think that the fine example you are now setting, eventually will be followed in many other localities, both within and without the United States. I feel greatly honored by your invitation to become one of the endorsers of your very laudable enterprise."

And Dr. Hornaday's prophecy has come true. Other institutions and states have followed Iowa's example. There are now schools of like character in the universities of Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, California, Colorado, and elsewhere. The seed which started at McGregor has spread to different sections of the country. The thought of Wild Life Protection is so entrenched in the minds of people in this state that the impetus was carried to all parts of the United States.

For the year 1929 the school opened on August 5, and closed on the 17th.

The subjects handled and the faculty members were:

Geology—Dr. Geo. F. Kay, University of Iowa; Dr. Stookey of Coe College; Dr. A. O. Thomas, University of Iowa.

Botany—Dr. L. H. Pammel, Iowa State College; Dr. Shimek, State University of Iowa.

Archaeology—Dr. Charles R. Keyes, Cornell College.

American Indians—Dr. Melvin R. Gilmore, Museum of the American Indian, New York City.

Forestry—Prof. G. B. MacDonald, Iowa State College; Prof. I. T. Bode, Extension Forester, Iowa State College.

Zoology—Dr. J. E. Guthrie, Iowa State College.

History—Captain W. A. Blair, Davenport.

Conservation—Mrs. Francis E. Whitley, chairman Committee on Forestry and Natural Scenery, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Webster City; L. H. Pammel, B. Shimek, and G. B. MacDonald.

Birds—Dr. Clyde Ehinger, Keokuk; Orphus M. Shantz, president Illinois Audubon Society.

Special Speakers—Mrs. Henry Frankel, Des Moines; C. F. Culler and Harry L. Canfield, U. S. Fisheries Bureau; W. F. Dickens, U. S. Dept. of Interior; Prof. Homer R. Dill, Director University Museum, Iowa City; Maj. R. C. Williams, Dist. Engineer, U. S. War Dept.; Capt. W. F. Bickel, Applied Conservation, McGregor, Iowa.

Special emphasis is put on field trips conducted by people who know plant life, the animal life and the geology of the country. Probably

this is true, that no better faculty representing the great out-of-doors conducts a school than the one at McGregor, Iowa.

The School of Wild Life Protection is sponsored by the people of McGregor, the Iowa Conservation Association, and the Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund, of which Dr. W. T. Hornaday is chairman.

The Iowa State Board of Conservation consists of W. E. G. Saunders, chairman, Emmetsburg; Mrs. Henry Frankel, Des Moines; J. G. Wyth, Cedar Falls; Byron W. Newberry, Strawberry Point; Mrs. R. H. Volland, Iowa City; and W. C. Merckens, and S. E. Bemis, secretaries of the Board.

The program printed gave the topics discussed by members of the faculty as follows:

On the first afternoon, August 5, a general field trip was taken. There were field trips held on August 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, and 14. On the last day of the school a steamboat excursion with a talk on piloting on the Mississippi by Captain W. A. Blair was enjoyed by the students and faculty.

On August 11 memorial services for Reverend George Bennett were conducted by L. H. Pammel.

The school was well attended this year and the work was greatly appreciated by the students. Senator C. J. Fulton, in the *Fairfield Daily Ledger* of September 11 writes: "The Wild Life School at McGregor is a unique institution. It is unique in that those that enroll are of all ages. It is unique in that its instructors are college and university professors—scientists who serve without compensation for the pure joy of teaching. It is unique also in its methods. It has a two-fold purpose—the study and conservation of wild life."

The State Board of Conservation, held a meeting at McGregor during the session of the school and contributed to the school to the amount of \$250. The members of the Board, therefore, were elected as honorary life members of the School of Wild Life Protection.

The good work of the State Board of Conservation continues to develop and it brings some very fruitful results, as is shown by the above statement. The work is to be highly commended and it is a fine gratuitous service that the members of the Board are rendering to the state.

The Iowa Conservation Association met with the school on August 6 and had a splendid program.

A notable historical conference celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the signing of a peace treaty with the Indians was held in August, 1925. Mr. E. R. Harlan was present and contributed much to the success of this event, speaking on "Descendants of Some Iowa Aborigines." He brought some of the Tama Indians with him.

But this historical sketch is not complete without more details from Florence L. Clark as published in the *Christian Science Monitor* for 1925.

“ ‘In Chicago in 1833, September 26 and 27, my people signed a treaty giving our lands east of the Mississippi in trade for 5,000,000 acres of Iowa lands. The white chiefs say they give



White pine tree set out by James H. Bonnell in May, 1855, in front of their house in Iowa City. It now measures nine feet in circumference eighteen inches from the ground.

us a free ride by boat and wagon to new place. Today I come to Iowa, but I pay full price for each mile on the fire wagon.’

“So said Chief Simon Kahquados of the Pottawattamie Indians in speaking of his long journey by rail from northern Wisconsin to the Wild Life School at McGregor, Iowa, to participate in the centenary celebration of the Indian peace treaty

signed at Prairie du Chien in 1825. He laughed as he made the remark in his desire to show that he bore the whites of today 'no ill will.'

"Because their forefather chiefs were signers of the celebrated treaty of 1825, Chief Simon Kahquados and Sub-chief Mitchell of the Pottawattamies and Wampum, a Chippewa chief, came to take part in the Centenary pageant, staged at McGregor in commemoration of the great conference held between the white chiefs and red chiefs at Prairie du Chien 100 years ago. The Iowa Heights where this pageant took place overlook the Wisconsin prairie where thousands of Pottawattamies, Chippewas, Monominees, Ioways, and Sacs and Foxes assembled in that long ago day to establish boundaries which would stop the warring of the tribes among themselves.

"In full regalia the chiefs took dignified part in that day's doings, bearing themselves with the pride of race and authority as their grandfathers doubtless had in many ceremonies in those 600 years previous to the advent of white men, when the Pottawattamies dominated all the eastern Wisconsin, northeast Illinois, northern Indiana, part of Ohio and southern Michigan. They were leaders in that time in the fur trade traffic on Lake Michigan, gave the lake its name, attached their name to most of the rivers tributary to it, and more than fifty towns and cities and states. Their traditions gave Longfellow the material for *Hiawatha*.

"The remnant of the once powerful northern tribe of Pottawattamies now lives near Lake Michigan at Blackwell, Wisconsin, and it is here that the venerable chief Kahquados holds sway over the few of the chosen people as did his grandfather, Chief Quitos, over the many 100 years ago.

"Besides these chiefs about thirty Winnebagoes from the Dells of Wisconsin and villages near Lansing took part in the pageant. The pageant was directed by Mari Ruef Hofer, Chicago, who had directed many similar pageants, and is the author of books on music which are used widely in public schools of the United States.

"Characters were taken by Indians, McGregor men, and students of the Wild Life School. Bruce E. Mahan assisted Miss



Hofer and took a prominent speaking part. Charles E. Brown, curator of the Historical Museum, Wisconsin, and Miss Kellogg of the Wisconsin Historical Society were present."

In concluding this statement I want to make a brief reference to two men who were connected with the school. One of them is Dr. LeRoy Titus Weeks, clergyman of the Episcopal church, who, with rare ability and fine sentiment, helped so much in the school.

Then I have mentioned the passing of Reverend George Bennett, Congregational minister.

Also, I should like to mention Mr. Dilg, the founder of the Isaac Walton League, who did great work with reference to the Wild Life Refuge.

It seemed to me worth while to bring such movements as Arbor Day, forestry conservation, state parks, protection of birds and other animal life, and American School of Wild Life Protection under one head, as they are all allied and make a part of the conservation movement of today.

I am especially indebted to D. C. Mott for his editorial criticisms, and to E. R. Harlan for opening up the pages of the ANNALS OF IOWA to me, and to Mrs. Lena Wilson for copying the manuscript.

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### RIVER RISING

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The Des Moines River has been taking a little swell on itself within the past few days. Some folks here have been anticipating a small flood this spring, but we trust their anticipations will be disappointed. Enough water is needed to make the river navigable. The sight of a steamboat at our wharf from the lower country would be refreshing.—*Daily State Register*, Des Moines, March 3, 1864. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)



DR. L. H. PAMMEL  
JOSEPH KELSO, JR.

WILLIAM L. HARDING

JOHN F. FORD

EDGAR R. HARLAN

# ANNALS OF IOWA

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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### INITIATORS OF OUR STATE PARK SYSTEM

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At the close of the excellent series on conservation and related subjects by Dr. L. H. Pammel, it may be appropriate to add a word on the first Board of Conservation.

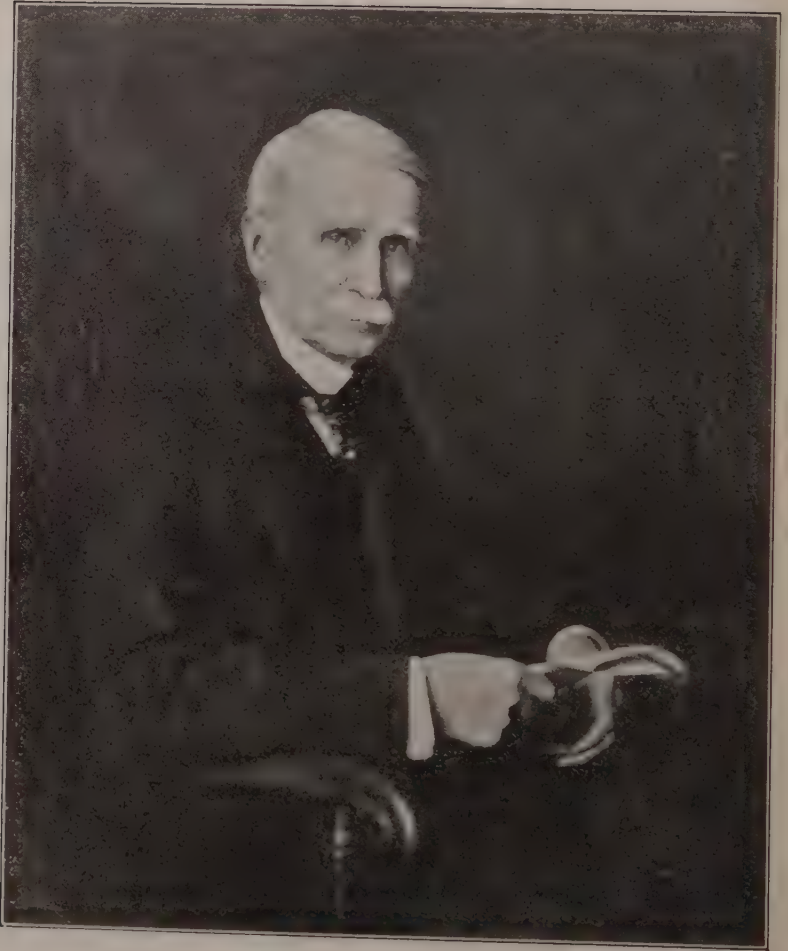
The first statute provided for the creation of a board of which the Curator of the Historical Department should be a member, and three others to be appointed by the Governor.

Governor Harding appointed Hon. John F. Ford, a former mayor of Fort Dodge, whose close and practical knowledge of native wild life, familiarity with the rod and gun, and standing among the sportsmen of the state well fitted him.

Hon. Joseph Kelso of Bellevue was selected because of his experience in the General Assembly, in business, and his knowledge of natural history and the Mississippi region.

Governor Harding accepted with fine ardor the suggestion that an enthusiastic scientist should be chosen. He named Dr. L. H. Pammel.

The board organized December 27, 1918, with Dr. Pammel, president, and the Curator, secretary. The organization so remained throughout the first phases of the work, or until the retirement of Messrs. Ford and Kelso in October, 1921. This consisted of general surveys, the purchase of the first few areas with a fund accumulated by the Fish and Game Department, added to a small direct appropriation. The Executive Council, with Governor Harding as its head, Secretary of State W. S. Allen, State Treasurer E. H. Hoyt, and State Auditor Frank S. Shaw made of this matter a major concern. From the co-ordinated functions came the first steps that led to the present achievement of a series of state parks and system of administration that, in Governor Harding's administration and through his intelligent zeal, early took rank as a leading instance of conservation and state park movements among the states of the Union.



*J. M. Mills*



## NOTABLE DEATHS

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FRANK MOODY MILLS was born near Ladoga, Montgomery County, Indiana, April 4, 1831, and died in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, October 21, 1929. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines. His parents were Dan and Janet (Westfall) Mills. He attended Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana, which institution in 1921 conferred on him the honorary degree of A. B., as of 1849, and in 1927 the degree of A. M. At the age of fourteen he began to learn the printer's trade. He removed to Des Moines in 1856 and opened a boot and shoe store, but soon disposed of it and joined with his brother, N. W. Mills, in the job printing business. This they developed rapidly, and also took on bookbinding. In 1859 he was elected state binder, retaining the position until 1866. N. W. Mills went out in May, 1861, as a lieutenant in the Second Iowa Infantry, leaving the burden of the business on his brother. In August and September of 1861 Frank M. led in raising the Tenth Iowa Infantry, and in many other ways aided the Union cause. In 1866 he and his brother, Jacob W. Mills, who had become associated in the business, purchased the *Iowa State Register* from Frank W. Palmer. Mr. Palmer remained for a time with the new owners as editor, and was followed by J. W. Mills, and later by James S. Clarkson. In 1870 they sold the paper to the Clarksons, Coker F., Richard P. and James S. The year previous, however, 1869, Frank M. Mills was elected state printer and served two years. He was elected state printer again, in 1878, and served four years. Their job printing and bookbinding had taken on map publishing, engraving, lithographing, etc. Several traveling men were kept on the road, and the business greatly prospered. In the forty years Mr. Mills was in Des Moines he assisted very materially in building the city. His activities were in politics, in public affairs and in business. At one time he acquired a large farm and raised Percheron horses and Polled Angus cattle. On leaving Des Moines Mr. Mills became publisher of the *Lincoln Daily News* of Lincoln, Illinois. He eventually became interested in electric railways and electric lighting plants. For a time he was in the street car and power business in Benton Harbor, Michigan. In 1912 he removed his family to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he had organized the Sioux Falls Traction Company in 1907, became its president and active head in construction and operation of the system, and remained in that position until his death. He was the first in South Dakota to operate motor passenger bus lines as an adjunct to trolley service. He retained his activity, clearness of mind, cheerfulness and optimism until the end came when he was in his ninety-ninth year.

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WILLIAM H. GALLUP was born at Summit, Scholarie County, New York, May 17, 1840, and died in Boone, Iowa, October 26, 1929. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Marshalltown. His parents were Nathan and

Pamelia (Baird) Gallup. He attended district school and academies at Warnerville, Charlottville, and Fredonia, New York, and was graduated from the New York State and National Law School at Poughkeepsie, August 1, 1860, and was admitted to the bar at Newburg, New York, the following September. He removed to Marshalltown, Iowa, in May, 1861, and began the practice of law. In October of that year he became owner and editor of the *Marshall County Times*, which he sold in May, 1862, but repurchased it in April, 1863, and finally sold it in September of that year. He led in the movement that brought about the incorporation of the town of Marshalltown, July 20, 1863. In December, 1864, he removed to Boonesboro. In February, 1865, he established the *Boonesboro Index*, which he removed late that year to Boone, then called Montana, sold it in 1867, repurchased it in 1868, it being then called the *Standard*, but sold it again in 1869. In May, 1870, he removed to Nevada and became owner and editor of the *Nevada Aegis*, renamed it the *Representative*, and sold it in September, 1882. In 1875 he was elected senator and served in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth general assemblies. From 1882 he was for two years in the book and stationery business in Nevada, two years in the banking business in Cambridge, and was owner and editor of the *Perry Chief* from December, 1887, to May, 1892. He then returned to Boone and was connected with the *Boone Republican*, as part owner, and later as owner, until 1897. From February, 1899, to March, 1900, he edited and published the *Monthly Boone Review and Advertiser*, and then again returned to the *Boone Standard*, owning and editing it from January, 1902, to June, 1908, when he retired.

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REUBEN F. PRICE was born at Delhi, Iowa, January 1, 1858, and died at Milford, Iowa, February 13, 1922. Burial was in Okoboji Cemetery. He was educated in public school. In early life he taught school and worked on farms. In 1882 he removed to Dickinson County where he farmed for eight years. In 1890 he removed to Milford. He was appointed postmaster at Milford in 1897 and served twelve years. In 1900 he engaged in real estate business which he continued during the remainder of his life. He was a member of the city council several years, and was elected representative in 1916 and re-elected in 1918, serving in the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth general assemblies.

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CHARLES G. HIPWELL was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, November 30, 1847, and died in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, August 22, 1929. Burial was at Davenport, Iowa. When he was five years old his parents removed with their family to Camden, Indiana, and in 1857 to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. In 1871 he removed to Davenport and engaged in the slate roofing business which he successfully operated in several states. He was active in public matters and popular with the public. He served as chairman of the Scott County Democratic Central Committee, was

a member of the Davenport City Council four years, was elected representative in 1887 and twice re-elected, serving in the Twenty-second, Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth general assemblies. In 1893 he was elected to the Senate and served in that body in the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth general assemblies.

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ERNEST ANDERSON SHERMAN was born at Monticello, Iowa, April 6, 1868, and died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 24, 1929. Burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His parents were Henry David and Sarah Secrest Sherman. He was educated in the Monticello public schools and the Cedar Rapids Business College. He served as a clerk in the executive office of Governor Larrabee during the four years of the latter's administration, 1886-1889. He became city editor of the *Cedar Rapids Republican* in 1890. Later he purchased an interest in *The Saturday Record* of Cedar Rapids, and later was sole owner and editor until 1912. He wielded great influence in public matters in Cedar Rapids, was one of the originators of the commission form of city government and was a member of the first Cedar Rapids Council under that plan, serving two terms. In 1912 he went to Minneapolis where he became advertising manager for the Russell-Miller Milling Company, and later, executive secretary of the Insurance Federation of Minnesota.

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HENRY JOSIAH GRISWOLD was born at Janesville, Wisconsin, November 13, 1858, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, September 7, 1929. Burial was at Independence. His parents were Harvey and Mary Dillenbeck Griswold. When Henry was five years old the family removed to a farm near Winthrop, Buchanan County, Iowa. Here the son spent his boyhood and youth and finished the course in public school in Winthrop. He taught school a few years and then homesteaded in South Dakota, remaining there two years. He returned to Winthrop and engaged in lumber business which he followed five years, then entered general merchandising at Winthrop. In 1893 he was elected representative and was re-elected in 1895, serving in the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth and Twenty-sixth Extra general assemblies. In 1899 he was elected senator and served in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth general assemblies. He was active in local, district and state politics. In 1903 he removed to Des Moines and entered the real estate business and for the last few years of his life he and his son, Dale A. Griswold, a practicing attorney, were partners in handling real estate.

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ROBERT HEALY was born at Lansing, Iowa, August 11, 1872, and died in Fort Dodge October 6, 1929. His parents, Michael and Catharine (Murphy) Healy removed with their family to Fort Dodge when Robert was only a boy. He attended Notre Dame University two years, going from there to Michigan University at Ann Arbor, from the Law Department of which he was graduated in 1898. He practiced law first



at Rockwell City, but soon located at Fort Dodge, and during different periods was associated with A. N. Botsford, his brothers, Thomas D. and Michael F. Healy, D. M. Kelleher, B. B. Burnquist, and M. J. Breen. During the last few years of his life he practiced alone. He participated in the trial of a large number of the most noted cases in his part of the state and even adjacent states, winning fame as a trial lawyer. He was a Republican in politics, and an admirer of Theodore Roosevelt, although he did not follow him in the third party movement in 1912. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1908 and was permanent chairman of the second Republican State Convention in 1908. He was also a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1916.

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WILLIAM E. HAMILTON was born in Ohio October 9, 1845, and died in Indianola, Iowa, October 16, 1929. He was graduated from Iowa Wesleyan University, Mount Pleasant, in 1867, taught mathematics in Simpson College, Indianola, the year 1867-68, then entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church and served pastorates at Onawa, Tabor, Woodbine, Thurman, Guthrie Center, Adel, and Harlan, taught mathematics in Simpson College from 1883 to 1886, was professor of philosophy and acting president in 1886 to 1889, pastor at Corning in 1889 to 1892, and professor of philosophy in Simpson from 1892 to 1911. He then spent a short sojourn in Arkansas, following that by filling an interim of one year, 1915-16, as president of Simpson, was pastor at Grand River three years, and retired in 1920, living thereafter at Indianola. In 1896 he served as a delegate to General Conference of the Methodist church. As preacher, college teacher and administrator he exercised a great and good influence.

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JOHN F. KLINE was born in Wapello County, Iowa, March 15, 1873, and died in Bloomfield October 8, 1929. He attended country schools, the Southern Iowa Normal at Bloomfield, and Highland Park College, Des Moines. For a few years he taught country schools in Wapello and Davis counties in winters and farmed during summers. He located in Bloomfield in 1896 and remained a citizen of that city during the rest of his life, except in 1910 he lived in Newton where he was owner and publisher of the *Newton Herald* for a portion of the year. During nearly all of the time he lived in Bloomfield he was engaged in merchandising fuel, flour, feed, and groceries. He was chairman of the Democratic County Central Committee during several campaigns, for about a year was editor of the *Bloomfield Democrat*, was a member of the City Council, and was elected representative in 1926 and re-elected in 1928, serving in the Forty-second and Forty-third general assemblies. In 1929 he was appointed by Speaker Johnson a member of the Tax Committee, which was composed of members of both Senate and House, to report to the Forty-fourth General Assembly.







ALBERT A. BENEDICT AND ABBIE ANNA MOTT  
From a daguerreotype taken June 22, 1860,  
a few days before their marriage.